

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1914
ANSWERED ON- 07/08/2024

GREEN HIGHWAYS POLICY

1914. SHRI R. DHARMAR:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives of Green Highways Policy, 2015 introduced to promote greening of highway corridors with participation of community, farmers, private sector, NGOs and Government institutions across country;

(b) whether said objectives have been achieved so far;

(c) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor;

(d) whether objective of employment policy to local people and communities has been fulfilled and details thereof;

(e) whether a monitoring mechanism has been set up to track implementation of policy and details thereof; and

(f) whether State Governments have started a programme on similar lines and if so, the details thereof including State of Tamil Nadu?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

- a. The Objectives of Green Highways Policy (Plantation, Transplantation, Beautification & Maintenance), 2015 were as follows:
 - i. To evolve a policy framework for plantation along National Highways.
 - ii. To reduce the impact of air pollution and dust as trees and shrubs are known to be natural sink for air pollutants.
 - iii. To provide much needed shade on glaring hot roads during summer.
 - iv. To reduce the impact of ever-increasing noise pollution caused due to increase in number of vehicles;
 - v. To arrest soil erosion at the embankment slopes.

- vi. To prevent glare from the headlight of incoming vehicles.
 - vii. To moderate the effect of wind and incoming radiation.
 - viii. To create employment opportunities for local people.
- b. NHAI has successfully planted 402.28 lakhs plants till date along the National Highways as per the Green Highways Policy 2015.
 - c. Plantations made so far (till 2023-24) are enclosed in Annexure.
 - d. The plantation is being carried out by the Self Help Groups (SHGs), Private Agencies, State Forest Department and Forest Corporation and also by the Contractors as per scope of the sanctioned work.
 - e. A Plantation Cell has been established in MoRTH for overall monitoring of all the projects of plantation through regional offices of NHAI, NHIDCL and other agencies in MoRTH for planning, implementation and monitoring of GHPs(Plantation, Transplantation, Beautification and Maintenance) for MoRTH, NHAI and NHIDCL.
 - f. This Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways. However, the policies related to States other than National Highways lie with them.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (C) IN RESPECT OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1914 FOR REPLY ON 07.08.2024 ASKED BY SHRI R. DHARMAR REGARDING GREEN HIGHWAYS POLICY

Sl No.	State	Cumulative Plantation of 3 Years (2015-16 to 2017-18) (No. of Plants in Avenue & Median Plantation in Lakh)	Plantation in 2018-19 (No. of Plants in Avenue & Median Plantation in Lakh)	Plantation in 2019-20 (No. of Plants in Avenue & Median Plantation in Lakh)	Plantation in 2020-21 (No. of Plants in Avenue & Median Plantation in Lakh)			Plantation in 2021-22 (No. of Plants in Avenue & Median Plantation in Lakh)			Plantation in 2022-23 (No. of Plants in Avenue & Median Plantation in Lakh)			Plantation in 2023-24 (No. of Plants in Avenue & Median Plantation in Lakh)			Total Plantation Progress (2015-16 to 2023-24) (No. of Plants in Avenue & Median Plantation in Lakh)
					Avenue	Median	Total	Avenue	Median	Total	Avenue	Median	Total	Avenue	Median	Total	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	6.34	1.47	4.8	1.22	1.79	3.01	0.50	1.17	1.67	0.58	1.00	1.58	0.58	0.55	1.14	20.01
2	Assam	1.01	0.73	0.04	0.92	1.54	2.46	1.01	0.72	1.73	0.45	0.44	0.89	0.22	0.63	0.85	7.71
3	Bihar	1.62	0.64	0.93	0.68	0.04	0.72	1.07	0.96	2.03	0.65	1.47	2.12	1.15	1.23	2.38	10.44
4	Chhattisgarh	2.02	0.86	0.54	0.84	0.34	1.18	0.70	0.31	1.02	0.88	0.44	1.33	0.86	0.31	1.17	8.11
5	Delhi	0.5	5.5	0.02	1.33	0.80	2.13	2.80	6.71	9.50	2.18	1.26	3.44	2.47	1.13	3.60	24.70
6	Gujarat	4.96	0.65	1.06	1.20	1.58	2.78	0.58	1.80	2.38	2.41	2.10	4.51	1.61	2.08	3.69	20.02
7	Haryana	6.46	4.25	0.28	0.61	1.91	2.52	1.00	0.59	1.59	0.93	1.27	2.19	1.13	1.85	2.98	20.27
8	Himachal Pradesh	0.16	0.08	0.23	0.42	0.26	0.68	0.47	0.25	0.71	0.35	0.47	0.82	0.21	0.11	0.32	3.00
9	Jammu & Kashmir	0.41	0.38	0.06	0.01	0.12	0.13	0.11	0.31	0.42	0.20	0.66	0.86	0.41	0.36	0.76	3.02
10	Jharkhand	1.32	0.86	0.26	0.50	0.65	1.16	1.32	1.21	2.53	0.77	0.30	1.07	0.57	0.36	0.92	8.12
11	Karnataka	7.51	1.75	3.73	0.81	2.70	3.51	1.47	2.26	3.73	1.04	1.82	2.86	0.56	1.67	2.23	25.32
12	Kerala	0.9	0.24	0.15	0.08	0.25	0.33	0.04	0.20	0.24	0.02	0.13	0.16	0.01	0.18	0.18	2.20
13	Madhya Pradesh	0.49	2.31	5.3	1.78	2.16	3.94	2.25	3.52	5.77	5.05	5.13	10.18	3.11	3.93	7.04	35.04
14	Maharashtra	7.46	0.64	4.62	1.82	2.40	4.22	3.23	4.74	7.97	2.69	3.34	6.04	2.71	2.54	5.25	36.19
15	Odisha	2.91	2.04	1.73	1.84	1.06	2.90	2.43	1.35	3.78	1.88	1.52	3.40	1.23	1.45	2.68	19.45
16	Punjab	3.98	0	1.98	2.55	2.26	4.81	2.15	0.81	2.96	1.12	1.34	2.45	1.33	1.00	2.33	18.52
17	Rajasthan	8.1	1.52	2.07	3.16	1.63	4.79	4.17	5.28	9.45	7.29	5.16	12.46	2.81	5.29	8.10	46.48
18	Tamil Nadu	6.44	1.82	2.92	1.19	1.67	2.86	0.93	1.54	2.47	1.03	1.52	2.55	1.27	1.35	2.62	21.67
19	Telangana	3.09	0.18	0.59	1.76	1.51	3.27	0.64	1.54	2.18	0.65	2.09	2.74	0.36	0.39	0.74	12.80
20	Uttar Pradesh	6.74	3.8	3.56	1.76	4.55	6.31	1.67	3.75	5.41	3.25	3.02	6.27	2.80	2.02	4.81	36.91
21	Uttarakhand	0	0.52	0.15	0.64	1.46	2.10	1.40	0.73	2.12	0.70	0.53	1.23	0.38	0.18	0.56	6.69
22	West Bengal	3.85	1.03	1.2	1.46	1.59	3.04	1.64	0.74	2.38	1.87	0.51	2.37	1.20	0.53	1.72	15.59
	Grand Total	76.27	31.27	36.22	26.58	32.29	58.87	31.58	40.47	72.05	35.99	35.53	71.52	26.96	29.12	56.08	402.28