GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1345 TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.07.2025

Dol ka Badh and its conservation

1345. SHRI SANJAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has a specific policy to protect forests and biodiversity-rich areas in urban settings, if so, the manner in which forests like Dol Ka Badh are being protected under that policy;
- (b) whether an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was conducted for the Dol Ka Badh project, if so, the details of its key findings; and
- (c) whether Government has formulated any national policy, guideline, or plan for the identification, protection, and restoration of urban forests like Dol Ka Badh in Jaipur, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) to (c) The protection and management of forests and trees is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. The Government has formulated adequate legal and regulatory frameworks at national and state levels, which regulate the protection, conservation, and management of the forests and trees. The major central level policy and legislations concerning the management and conservation of forests include the National Forest Policy, 1988, Indian Forest Act, 1927, Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980, and Biological Diversity Act, 2002, etc.

The National Forest Policy, 1988 envisages the national goal to have a minimum of one-third of the total land area under forest or tree cover and two-thirds of the area under such cover in the hill and mountainous regions of the country. In consonance with National Forest Policy, 1988, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has been taking several initiatives for increasing forest and tree cover in the country including urban areas.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change provides financial assistance to State Governments and Union Territory Administrations under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely Green India Mission to support and supplement the efforts of States and Union Territories. National Mission for a Green India (GIM) is one of the eight Missions outlined under the National Action Plan on Climate Change. It aims at protecting, restoring, and enhancing India's forest cover by undertaking plantation activities in the forest and non-forest areas including urban areas. The Ministry is implementing Nagar Van Yojana with an objective to enhance the forest and green cover in the urban and peri-urban areas. School Nursery Yojna is also being implemented across the country to actively involve school students in developing nursery, raising and planting seedlings as part of school curriculum. The afforestation activities are also taken up by utilizing the Compensatory Afforestation Fund for compensating the loss of forest & tree cover due to diversion of forest land for developmental projects.

The tree plantation campaign "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" aims to foster an emotional connection between citizens and trees by encouraging each individual to plant and care for at least one tree in honor of their mother, promoting environmental stewardship and personal responsibility.

As per the information provided by the Government of Rajasthan, presently there is no proposal under consideration in the name of "Dol Ka Badh" project, nor any such proposal has been received for consideration of State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) for appraisal.
