

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1163
ANSWERED ON 10.12.2025**

Involving children in practical environmental activities

1163 Shri Sant Balbir Singh:

Will the Minister of *Education* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan to incorporate hands-on environmental activities in schools, such as creating school nurseries or involving children in planting saplings on special occasions;
- (b) whether there are any school-based programs where children are encouraged to grow saplings, understand their importance, and take part in tree-planting events; and
- (c) how does the Ministry plan to organize and promote special events, like World Environment Day or Earth Day, in schools, to help students actively participate in environmental activities and gain practical experience in conservation?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SHRI JAYANT CHOUDHARY)**

(a) & (b): Under the centrally sponsored scheme of Samagra Shiksha, Eco Clubs for Mission LiFE function in schools in order to sensitize students to environmental / climate change concerns and inculcate among them environment friendly attitudes and behavior. Under the aegis of Eco Clubs for Mission LiFE, school students participate in hands-on environment-related activities, including plantation of saplings, nature walks, cleanliness drives etc.

Under the PM POSHAN Scheme, School Nutrition Gardens are set up in schools to provide opportunity for hands-on experiential learning, to inculcate the habit of eating right among students and enable them to develop a bond with nature.

Under PM SHRI scheme, schools focus on / incorporate green, environment friendly aspects like energy efficiency using solar panels and LED lighting, herbal/medicinal gardens with natural farming, waste management, plastic-free campus, water conservation and harvesting and other awareness generation activities.

(c): The Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education issues instructions from time-to-time to observe important days including World Environment Day, Earth Day etc. in schools across the nation by undertaking age appropriate activities. On Earth

Day 2025, a creative campaign “QR Codes for Flora” was undertaken under the aegis of Eco Clubs for Mission LiFE, blending environmental education with digital skills. As part of this activity, school students surveyed their school campus and generated QR codes for trees, shrubs etc. providing instant access to information about the tree’s name, species, characteristics and benefits. To mark World Environment Day 2025, a national webinar on Ending Plastic Pollution Globally was organized for all schools. The tree plantation campaign, Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam, was launched on World Environment Day 2025 in schools across the nation under the aegis of Eco Clubs for Mission LiFE, encouraging students to plant saplings along with their mothers. In 2025, the tree plantation drive was carried out in schools across India from 5th June to 10th October 2025, coinciding with the monsoon season in different agro-climatic zones. The campaign achieved the plantation of over 10.35 crore saplings in diverse locations, including school campuses, roads leading to schools/homes, neighbourhoods and other public spaces.
