GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1334
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.12.2025

Controlling desertification in Rajasthan

1334. SHRI RAJENDRA GEHLOT:

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

(a) whether Government is implementing new schemes to control desertification in Rajasthan;
(b) the number of districts covered under these schemes; and
(c) the expected environmental benefits therefrom?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has launched a number of afforestation schemes/programmes which also address the problem of land degradation and desertification, namely the Green India Mission (GIM), Nagar Van Yojana (NVY), School Nursery Yojana (SNY), the Eco Development Forces (EDF) scheme, the National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC) and funds under the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) which are utilized for control of desertification through afforestation, water conservation and management in arid areas including Rajasthan. The State Government of Rajasthan is also implementing Climate Change and Combating Desertification (CC&CD) programme for combating land degradation and desertification in 12 districts.

Further, the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' campaign was launched on 5th June, 2024 with the objectives of halting and reversing land degradation, build drought resilience, prevent desertification and increase the green cover of the country through voluntary planting of trees on a "Whole of Government" and "Whole of Society" approach, and the State of Rajasthan has planted 7.27 crore trees saplings during FY 2024-25 & 14.44 crore in FY 2025-26 under this campaign.

The eco-restoration efforts undertaken under these schemes have a positive impact on environmental health, including reduction in land degradation through soil and moisture conservation and stabilization of sand dunes, improvement in vegetation cover, enhanced carbon sequestration, improved groundwater recharge and reduced surface runoff, strengthening of ecosystem services, and improvement in livelihood opportunities for local communities