

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2135**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.12.2025

**Expansion of green cover**

2135. SHRI MASTHAN RAO YADAV BEEDHA:

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

- (a) the increase in forest and tree cover, as per the latest India State of Forest Report;
- (b) the ongoing afforestation programmes funded by the Central Government; and
- (c) whether the Ministry proposes new initiatives to promote urban forestry and community based plantation drives?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) Forest Survey of India (FSI), Dehradun, an organization under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, carries out the assessment of forest and tree cover of the country biennially and the findings are published in the India State of Forest Report (ISFR). The forest cover assessment is a wall-to-wall mapping exercise based on remote sensing supported by intensive ground verification and field data from the National Forest Inventory.

As per ISFR 2023, the forest and tree cover of the country is 8,27,356.95 square kilometer which is 25.17% of the geographical area of the country. As per latest ISFR 2023, the total forest and tree cover of the country has increased by 1,445.81 square kilometer as compared to the last assessment of ISFR 2021.

(b) to (c) The Ministry provides technical and financial support to States and Union Territories through various schemes and programmes of the Central Government for enhancement of forest cover including protection, conservation and management of forests in the country. This includes the National Mission for a Green India (GIM), Forest Fire Prevention and Management Scheme (FPM), Nagar Van Yojana (NVY), Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Incomes (MISHTI) and Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats.

The Ministry promotes urban forestry and community-based plantation activities through initiatives such as the Nagar Van Yojana, which focuses on creation of urban forests with community participation.

Further, a plantation campaign “एक पेड़ माँ के नाम # Plant4Mother” has also been launched on the occasion of World Environment Day 2024 and in the current year also to undertake plantation activities across the country. This campaign follows the “Whole of Government” and “Whole of Society” approach with participation of all stakeholders for increasing the green cover in the country. The campaign has contributed large scale plantation aiding the enhancement of green cover in the country.

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