

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.1052
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.11.2016

Afforestation

1052. SHRI BHARAT SINGH:

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

- (a) the land area, in hectares on which afforestation has been carried out by the Government in lieu of the trees cut down for construction of national highways in the country during each of the last three years; State-wise;
- (b) whether the Ministry is aware of the fact that artificial afforestation is not lasting and cannot be compared with the depleted or diminished natural forests; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE)

- (a) Under the guidelines issued under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, the stipulation of planting of trees in multiples of the number of felled trees, is prescribed as an ameliorative measure, *in-lieu* of felling of trees as a consequence of construction of national highways, the quantum of multiples stipulated varies from State to State. State wise details of compensatory afforestation in lieu of diverted forest land including for roads, is given in **Annexure**.
- (b) & (c) Artificial afforestation carried out under compensatory afforestation provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 does not substitute natural forests. Yet, keeping in view the imperatives of development, and the crucial role played by development projects including highways in the process of development, permission for diversion of forest land is granted under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 only in cases where diversion of forest land is inevitable. Compensatory afforestation is undertaken to minimize the loss of impact of forest diversion in due course of time.

Annexure referred to in reply of part (a) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.1052 on “Afforestation ” asked by Shri Bharat Singh for reply on 22.11.2016.

Total Compensatory Afforestation done upto 31.03.2015 in various States

SL. No.	Name of the State	Compensatory Afforestation done (in hectares)
1	Andaman & Nicobar	2164
2	Andhra Pradesh	27375
3	Arunachal Pradesh	12096
4	Assam	6372
5	Bihar	964
6	Chandigarh	26
7	Chhattisgarh	30450
8	Delhi	88
9	Goa	1772
10	Gujarat	79804
11	Haryana	3716
12	Himachal Pradesh	19393
13	Jammu & Kashmir	25612
14	Jharkhand	15840
15	Karnataka Kerala	25921
16	Kerala	58578
17	Madhya Pradesh	132057
18	Maharashtra	94317
19	Manipur	803
20	Mizoram	3483
21	Odisha	42314
22	Punjab	9831
23	Rajasthan	16919
24	Sikkim	3530
25	Tamil Nadu	3342
26	Tripura	3951
27	Uttar Pradesh	10254
28	Uttarakhand	34548
29	West Bengal	3289
30	Telangana	8297
Total		677106