

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 444
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.04.2017**

PLANTATION NEAR RAILWAY TRACKS

**†*444. SHRI LAKHAN LAL SAHU:
SHRI VIKRAM USENDI:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways had fixed the target of planting five crore plants along the railway tracks;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of plants planted as on date, division-wise; and**
- (c) whether Bilaspur, Korba and Janjgir-Champa districts of Chhattisgarh have been covered under the above said scheme of Plantation and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF
STARRED QUESTION NO. 444 BY SHRI LAKHAN LAL SAHU AND
SHRI VIKRAM USENDI TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON
05.04.2017 REGARDING PLANTATION NEAR RAILWAY TRACKS**

(a) to (c): In pursuance of Railways' commitment towards environmental improvement and sustainable development, Railway has planned to plant 5 crore sapling/plants by 2019-20 on railway land boundary along the railway tracks depending upon availability of resources and co-operation from the State Forest Department. To achieve this, Railway has taken many strategic initiatives. Forest Departments of the States are being involved in plantation as well as maintenance and disposal of trees, thus bringing in the much needed expertise in afforestation. For this purpose, Ministry of Railways have finalised a model agreement in consultation with Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) in January 2016 to be entered between Zonal Railways and respective State Forest Department for plantation of trees on Railway land along the railway track and station yards without transferring the ownership of the land in favour of State Forest Department. As per this Agreement, plantation along the railway track on railway land boundary can be done by Forest Department without declaring such land as protected forest and can be re-used by Railways at any time without any hindrance to Railway works/development projects, cost of the plantation including its protection and maintenance can be borne by State Forest Department or Railway Administration or can be shared by both. The agreement has already been finalised with State Forest Department of Haryana, Punjab, Assam and Karnataka. The plantation work along the railway track has already been done

under this agreement by State Forest Department of Punjab on about 73 km of land boundary by planting about 90000 saplings and State Forest Department of Haryana on about 13.71 km of land boundary by planting about 16500 saplings. Eastern Railway has also entered into an agreement with West Bengal Forest Department for undertaking plantation under Namami Gange Scheme, launched as a National Mission for Clean Ganga and offered 167.22 acres of land to West Bengal Forest Department for undertaking plantation. Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL) has tied up with Local Women Self Help Group for tree plantation as part of their afforestation effort. Railway is also exploring the feasibility for leveraging 'Climate Fund', through various national/international mechanisms like, Green Climate Fund (GCF) and National Adaptation Fund (NAF) for plantation. Besides this, to generate additional resources in this regard, Railways have decided that the expenditure on plantation shall be met through by making 1% lump sum provision in the works estimates for Environmental works like plantation, etc and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds also to be mobilized from Corporates/Public Sector Undertakings(PSUs) for plantation. Zonal Railways have also been advised to involve Railway staff/their families including Railway Protection Force (RPF) and contractors working for Railways for plantation through Shramdan. As a part of Railway's effort towards sustainable development, Railway has revived and made functional most of its water bodies, out of 1560 water bodies, 1527 have been made functional. As a part of this effort, Railway has revived 200 year old Salarjung well at Hyderabad yielding average 2.5 lakhs litres water per day.

During 2016-17, Railways have planted around 1.22 crore saplings up to February 2017, the division wise details is as under:

| Railway | Division | No. of Saplings planted (upto February, 2017) (figures in lakhs) |
|---------------------------|--------------------|---|
| Central | Pune | 1.23 |
| | Mumbai | 0.68 |
| | Solapur | 1.20 |
| | Nagpur | 1.30 |
| | Bhusaval | 1.65 |
| Eastern | Sealdah | 0.51 |
| | Asansol | 0.61 |
| | Malda | 0.23 |
| | Howrah | 1.06 |
| East Central | Sonpur | 1.13 |
| | Danapur | 2.05 |
| | Dhanbad | 1.66 |
| | Mughalsarai | 0.99 |
| | Samastipur | 3.95 |
| East Coast | Waltair | 3.81 |
| | Khurda Road | 3.20 |
| | Sambalpur | 1.52 |
| Northern | Ambala | 1.57 |
| | Delhi | 1.30 |
| | Moradabad | 1.64 |
| | Firozpur | 1.51 |
| | Lucknow | 1.12 |
| North Central | Allahabad | 4.41 |
| | Agra | 4.39 |
| | Jhansi | 5.79 |
| North Eastern | Izzatnagar | 1.82 |
| | Luckow City | 0.53 |
| | Varanasi | 2.21 |
| Northeast Frontier | Alipur Duar | 1.16 |
| | Katihar | 0.97 |
| | Lumding | 1.41 |
| | Rangia | 1.22 |
| | Tinsukia | 2.04 |

| Railway | Division | No. of Saplings planted (upto February, 2017) (figures in lakhs) |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| North Western | Jaipur | 1.52 |
| | Jodhpur | 1.58 |
| | Ajmer | 0.86 |
| | Bikaner | 1.05 |
| Southern | Tiruchchirappalli | 0.29 |
| | Palghat | 0.27 |
| | Madurai | 0.10 |
| | Chennai | 0.35 |
| | Trivandrum | 0.13 |
| | Salem | 0.32 |
| South Central | Secunderabad | 3.37 |
| | Hyderabad | 1.41 |
| | Guntakal | 2.18 |
| | Guntur | 1.16 |
| | Nanded | 3.48 |
| | Vijayawada | 6.10 |
| South Eastern | Adra | 1.26 |
| | Chakradharpur | 2.20 |
| | Kharagpur | 1.02 |
| | Ranchi | 0.60 |
| South East Central | Bilaspur | 3.88 |
| | Nagpur | 2.57 |
| | Raipur | 2.89 |
| South Western | Hubballi | 1.15 |
| | Bengaluru | 1.40 |
| | Mysuru | 0.71 |
| Western | Ahmedabad | 4.05 |
| | Rajkot | 0.78 |
| | Ratlam | 1.07 |
| | Vadodara | 1.08 |
| | Mumbai | 0.25 |
| | Bhavnagar | 1.27 |
| West Central | Jabalpur | 4.34 |
| | Bhopal | 1.60 |
| | Kota | 5.89 |
| TOTAL | | 122.05 |

Bilaspur, Korba and Janjgir-Champa districts of Chhattisgarh State come under Bilaspur Division of South East Central Railway where 3.88 lakhs sapling/plants have been planted.

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