

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1353**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.12.2017

**Carbon Sink**

1353.ADV. JOICE GEORGE:

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

- (a) whether the Government has committed to create an additional carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent through additional forest and tree cover by 2030;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the operational agenda behind such proposals;
- (c) the progress made so far in this regard along with the list of selected areas for implementation, State-wise;
- (d) the details of international commitments in this regard; and
- (e) whether the Government is keeping a balance between environment conservation and development and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**  
**(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)**

(a) to (d) India submitted its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) under Paris Agreement to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). One of the goals under NDC is to create an additional carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent through additional forest and tree cover by 2030.

The NDCs will be implemented in post 2020 period and the commitments as part of NDC pertain to the period 2021 – 2030. However, the Government has integrated activities under the Green India Mission, National Afforestation Programme, funds under Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority, Green Highways policy and other plantations to achieve the forestry goal. It will involve afforestation and reforestation including rehabilitation of the degraded natural forests, promotion of trees outside forests, convergence of various schemes of central and state governments etc.

(e) India's NDC takes into account its commitment to conservation of environment along with fulfilling its development imperatives including poverty eradication, food security, universal access to education, health and energy etc.

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