GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 828 TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.12.2018

Bamboo Cultivation

828. SHRI R.P. MARUTHARAJAA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps for futuristic decision to exclude bamboo from definition of tree under the Indian Forest Act of 1927 and various advisories were also issued to States/UT for relaxing/exempting the regulatory regime for bamboo grown;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of States that have relaxed felling and transit rules related to bamboo; and
- (d) the details of employment potential/generation and economic benefits of bamboo cultivation to farmers?

ANSWER

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

- (a) & (b) As per the Indian Forest (Amendment) Act, 2017 No. 5 of 2018 published in the Gazette of India on 8th January, 2018, Section 2(7) of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 has been amended to omit the word "bamboos" from the definition of "tree" with effect from 23.11.2017. This was followed by various advisories issued to all States/UT Governments on 4.12.2017, 22.12.2017 and 25.06.2018 to bring necessary amendment/ modification in their respective State Forest acts/rules in order to ensure a uniform regulatory regime related to felling and transit of bamboo grown outside forests.
 - (c) 22 States/ UTs have already liberalized/ exempted bamboo from requirement of transit and felling permit. These States are Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Sikkim, Bihar, Punjab, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Delhi, Haryana, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Telangana, Kerala, Uttarakhand, and Uttar Pradesh.

(d) The restructured National Bamboo Mission (NBM) has been launched in April, 2018 under the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) under Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. NBM focuses on the development of complete value chain of bamboo sector to link growers with consumers starting from planting material, plantation, creation of facilities for collection, aggregation, processing marketing, micro, small and medium enterprises, skill development and brand building initiative in a cluster approach mode and help to enhance farmers income. The scheme is being implemented in non-forest Government land and private farmers field and States where it has social, commercial and economical advantage, including the bamboo rich States of North Eastern region and Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Karnataka, Uttarakhand, Bihar, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Kerala. The details of plantation raised under NBM is given in Annexure-1. The details of State-wise plantation target approved as per Approved Action Plans received from States so far under restructured National Bamboo Mission is given in Annexure-II. All these activities will help in employment generation and economic benefits to farmers involved in bamboo cultivation.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (d) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 828 due for answer on 14-12-2018 regarding 'Bamboo Cultivation'.

Details of plantation raised under earlier National Bamboo Mission from 2006-07 to 2015-16

Plantation (in hectare)

S. No.	States	Total Plantation
1	Andhra Pradesh	1083
2	Bihar	3952
3	Chhattisgarh	18508
4	Goa	11
5	Gujarat	14566
6	Himachal Pradesh	4868
7	Jammu & Kashmir	1716
8	Jharkhand	4404
9	Karnataka	16343
10	Kerala	1041
11	Madhya Pradesh	12044
12	Maharashtra	6710
13	Odhisa	16020
14	Punjab	800
15	Rajasthan	7511
16	Tamil Nadu	3123
17	Uttar Pradesh	6248
18	Uttarakhand	6028
19	West Bengal	390
	SUB TOTAL	125366
	NE STATES	
20	Arunachal Pradesh	38577
21	Assam	20391
22	Manipur	49724
23	Meghalaya	5914
24	Mizoram	56673
25	Nagaland	44430
26	Sikkim	13401
27	Tripura	7315
	SUB Total	236425
	(NE States)	
	GRAND TOTAL	361791

^{*} No new plantation was done during 2016-17 and 2017-18.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (d) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 828 due for answer on 14-12-2018 regarding 'Bamboo Cultivation'.

Details of State-wise approved plantation area during the current year under restructured National Bamboo Mission for 2018-19.

(Area in hectare)

Sl. No.	State	Total Plantation
1.	Andhra Pradesh	450
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	600
3.	Assam	1200
4.	Jharkhand	110
5.	Karnataka	1904
6.	Kerala	780
7.	Madhya Pradesh	4331
8.	Maharashtra	2596
9.	Mizoram	270
10.	Sikkim	200
11.	Tripura	500
12.	Uttarakhand	1005
	TOTAL	13946