GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 937 TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2019

Bamboo Cultivation

937. SHRI MAHEISH GIRRI:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps in order to skill youth in environment, forest and wildlife sectors and enable them to be gainfully employed/self-employed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any step to promote bamboo cultivation/ plantation on a large scale; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. In order to train youth in environment, forest and wildlife sectors and enable them to be gainfully employed/ self-employed, MoEF&CC has launched a Green Skill Development Programme (GSDP) in June, 2017 on a pilot basis. The programme is now being scaled up to an all India level. More than 30 skilling programmes are being conducted during 2018-19, covering diverse fields such as pollution monitoring (air/ water/ soil), Sewage Treatment Plants (STP)/Effluent Treatments Plants (ETP) /Common and Combined Effluent Treatment Plants operation (CETP), waste management, forest management, water budgeting & auditing, conservation of river dolphins, wildlife management, para taxonomy, including PBRs, mangroves conservation, bamboo management and livelihood generation. The Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute (IPIRTI), Bangalore an institute under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change conduct training in connection with forest product utilization for plywood industry and trade and allied industries. It is also imparting technical education and/or training at undergraduate, postgraduate, and/or any other level in technology of agro and forests products, adhesives and laminates, and/or synthetic finishing, manufacturing machinery. Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun is also conducting training for skill development.

(c) & (d) The restructured National Bamboo Mission (NBM) under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has been launched in April, 2018. It 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 & medium enterprises, skill development and brand building initiative in a cluster approach mode. The objectives of the NBM include increasing the area under bamboo plantation in non forest Government and private lands to supplement farm income and contribute towards resilience to climate change as well as availability of quality raw material requirement of industries. The bamboo plantations are promoted predominantly in farmers' fields, homesteads, community lands, arable wastelands, and along irrigation canals, water bodies etc. This will help to enhance farmer's income. Till date 60 Hi-Tech nurseries, 146 big nurseries, 107 small nurseries and 16661 hectare of bamboo based plantation have been approved for different NBM implementing States on the basis of Annual Action Plan submitted by them. The transfer of technology through training, frontline, demonstration, publicity and training of trainers are an integral part of the NBM in which skill development, adoption of scientific measure and training of farmers and field level workers is provisioned.
