

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3081
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2023

Climate Change

3081. SHRI HANUMAN BENIWAL;
SHRI M. BADRUDDIN AJMAL

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted such study on climate change and its effects etc. and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the negative effects on the agriculture sector have been highlighted in the study and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the works carried out as per the commitment made by India in International for a to tackle climate change;
- (d) whether deforestation is one of the major reasons for climate change causing serious threat to the health, if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to preserve the forest area; and
- (f) whether steps taken to create awareness among people for plantation around them even though small plant for fresh environment around them, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) to (c) The Government of India through its various Ministries and Departments continues to assess the impacts of climate change taking into account new data and increased scientific knowledge on the subject. Such data and analyses are routinely carried out in the regular work of Ministries/Departments and incorporated further in schemes, plans and initiatives of the Government as notified from time to time.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under flagship project NationalInnovations in Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA) has studied the effects of climatechange on agriculture sector. In the absence of adoption of adaptation measures, rainfed rice yields in India is projected to reduce by 20% in 2050 and 47% in 2080 scenarioswhile, irrigated rice yields are projected to reduce by 3.5% in 2050 and 5% in 2080 scenarios.Climate change is projected to reduce wheat yield by 19.3% in 2050 and 40% in 2080scenarios towards the end of the century with significant spatial and temporal variations.Climate change is projected to reduce the kharif maize yields by 18 to 23% in 2050 and 2080scenarios.

(d) to (f) Anthropogenic Climate Change is caused due to emission of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) from various sources including from deforestation.

The Government of India is implementing various programmes to improve and increase the forest & tree cover in the country through Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as National Afforestation Programme (NAP) and National Mission for a Green India (GIM). The Ministry also supports school nursery and urban forestry programmes through people's participation. Afforestation activities are also taken up under various programmes/funding sources such as Compensatory Afforestation Funds under Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA), afforestation activities under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA), National Agro-forestry Policy and Sub-mission on Agro-forestry (SMAF), National Bamboo Mission and National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture. In addition to above, State and UT Governments have their own afforestation and reforestation programmes. Almost every state has activities under social forestry, which largely focuses on tree planting in the areas outside forests. In addition, plantations are also done by various Departments, Non-Government Organizations, Civil Society, Corporate bodies, etc.

The multi Departmental efforts have yielded good results in addressing the problem of deforestation, which is evident from the fact that the forest cover has been increasing over the years. As per the latest ISFR 2021, the total forest cover of the country has increased by 12,294 square kilometres in the last seven years (ISFR 2015 to ISFR 2021).
