

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 478
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2023

Promotion of Forestry on Fallow Land

478. SHRI PARVESH SAHIB SINGH VERMA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has thought of any policy to promote forestry on the fallow land, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the Government has taken any steps to combat desertification through increasing the forest cover, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to conserve the mangroves from coastal erosion, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

- (a) to (b) The National Forest Policy (NFP) 1988 envisages the national goal to have a minimum of one- third of the total land area under forest or tree cover and two-third of the area under such cover in the hill and mountainous regions of the country. In consonance with NFP, 1988, the Ministry has been taking several initiatives for promoting forestry including fallow lands under different schemes like plantation from CAMPA funds, different plantation done under MGNREGA, Agroforestry schemes etc. National Mission for a Green India (GIM) on landscape approach also covers fallow lands in which appropriate interventions as applicable are taken up by the concerned implementing agencies. It has resulted in increase in forest cover by 12,116sqkm in last seven years (ISFR 2015-2021).
- (c) Mangroves are the first line of defence for coastal communities. They stabilize shorelines by slowing erosion and provide natural barriers protecting coastal communities from increased storm surge, flooding, and hurricanes. The Government of India has taken steps to protect, sustain, conserve and augment forests in the country through promotional as well as regulatory measures. The promotional measures are being implemented through a Central Sector Scheme under National Coastal Mission Programme on 'Conservation and Management of Mangroves and Coral Reefs'. Under this programme, annual Management Action Plan (MAP) for conservation and management of mangroves are formulated and implemented in all the coastal States and Union Territories.

The Government under Centrally sponsored scheme for conservation & Management of Mangroves, extend assistance to Coastal State/UTs for implementation of action plans including survey and demarcation, alternation and supplementary livelihood, protection measures and education and awareness activities.
