

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5090
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.04.2023

Fruit Trees Plantation on Barren Lands

5090. DR. ALOK KUMAR SUMAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government is planning to utilise barren lands to plant fruit trees like mango, jamun, etc. in the entire country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any study to utilise barren lands for planting fruit trees to remove poverty of the country and for exporting the surplus fruits, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government has any proposal to increase the plantation of fruit trees in all States including Bihar and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

- (a) to (d) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) encourages plantation on suitable barren & waste land through programmes and schemes such as National Mission for a Green India (GIM), Nagar Van Yojana, School Nursery Yojana, Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA), etc. which promote tree plantation on vacant lands and bunds on farm lands etc. by involving local communities, NGOs, educational institutions, local bodies, etc.

Studies and researches are being undertaken by many agencies/institutes of the Ministry and various other Ministries and State governments, including forest departments, the findings/outcomes of which are supplementing need-based development of forests including policy/scheme formulation. However, no specific study to utilise barren lands for planting fruit trees has been conducted by the Ministry.

Tree plantation, being a multi-departmental, multi-agency activity, are taken up cross-sectorally under various programmes/funding sources of MoEFCC, other ministries/ organizations and also through State Plan budgets including Bihar State. The plantation species is selected by the implementing agencies as per the scheme guidelines and on the basis of their needs, ecological conditions and other local factors in consultation with the Forest Department. The native forest species are encouraged for plantation in the forest areas giving importance to trees with multiple uses including fruit bearing trees.