

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2868
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.08.2023

Plantation of Saplings

2868. SHRI RAHUL KASWAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes a new project to improve the environment by planting saplings in Government nurseries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof for Churu, Bikaner and Hanumangarh districts in Rajasthan;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to provide free saplings of Janti without thorns/Khejri to the farmers for planting in the local areas and panchayat headquarters to improve the forest and environment; and
- (d) 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)&(b) The Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change has been making constant efforts to promote plantation across the country and has taken several initiatives to improve the environment by planting saplings through Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as National Mission for a Green India. Further, tree plantation, being a multi-departmental, multi-agency activity, are also taken up cross-sectorally under various programmes/funding sources of other ministries/ organizations and also through State Plan budgets. Though there is no specific scheme for the purpose of planting saplings in Government nurseries by the Ministry, various States including Rajasthan have undertaken several projects on plantation through their own resources.

The Govt. of Rajasthan has informed that two projects for Afforestation and Biodiversity Conservation have been prepared in addition to the regular efforts from State and Central Funds. This includes one project covering 13 Eastern districts with co-funding by AFD, France and another project covering 19 districts of Southern and Western Rajasthan in the same-lines with JICA, Japan. The State has informed that 19,15,000 seedlings in Churu, 17,45,000 seedlings in Bikaner and 14,90,000 seedlings in Hanumangarh for the year 2023-24, have been raised by the Forest Department. In addition to this, the districts of Bikaner and Churu have been included in the project proposal submitted to JICA, Japan.

- (c)&(d) The Rajasthan state has informed that no such proposal is under consideration to provide free saplings of Janti without thorns/Khejri to the farmers for planting in the local areas and panchayat headquarters at present.
