GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIAMTE CHANGE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.49 TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.12.2023

Aravalli Green Wall Project

49. SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY:

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

- (a) the details of the funds that have been allocated by the Government for the Aravalli Green Wall Project;
- (b) the ways in which the project is expected to benefit the local communities;
- (c) whether the Government has taken steps to engage State Governments, civil society groups, local communities and the private sector in the process of implementing the said project; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, thereasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) On the occasion of International Day of Forests, Ministry has announced the Aravalli Green Wall Project to revive the Aravalli's through various initiatives like single-use plastic ban, water conservation efforts and natural resources protection which will contribute to green the 5 km buffer area around the Aravalli Hill Range covering Haryana, Gujarat, Rajasthan and part of Delhi NCR.

The overall objectives of the initiative is to improve the ecological health of the Aravalli range and to prevent eastward expansion of Thar Desert and to reduce land degradation by creating green barriers that will prevent soil erosion, desertification and dust storms. This will lead to carbon sequestration and mitigating climate change to enhance the biodiversity and ecosystem services of the Aravalli range by planting native tree species, to promote the sustainable development and livelihood opportunities by involving local communities in afforestation, agro-forestry and water conservation activities that will ultimately generate income, employment, food security and social benefits.

The Detailed Project Report has been prepared and further the preparation of state-wise holistic action plan for taking up restoration activities in Aravalli range is under process in consultation with the State Forest Departments, civil society groups, local communities and relevant private sector. Some area is also being undertaken under Compensatory Afforestation Scheme related to proposal for diversion of forest land for non-forestry activities.
