

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1991
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.11.2019

Carbon Sinks

1991. SHRI PINAKI MISRA:

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

- (a) the current capacity of carbon sinks in the country in terms of CO₂ equivalent;
- (b) the current rate of afforestation in the country, State-wise;
- (c) whether this rate is commensurate with the target of creating an additional carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of CO₂ equivalent through additional forest and tree cover by 2030, as mentioned in the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions of India;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor and the proposed plan to achieve the stated targets?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)

(a) As per India's second Biennial Update Report submitted to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in December 2018, the sink action of India's Land-Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry sector in 2014 was 301 million tonne CO₂ equivalent.

(b) The data on State-wise area covered under plantation (public and forest lands) published by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation is given in the table below:

Table : State wise afforestation trends in India¹

Sl. No.	State/UT	Afforestation (in Sq.Km)					
	Name	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018
1	Andhra Pradesh	4,072.52	3,729.62	2,085.91	1,336.18	2,746.35	2,294.09
2	Arunachal Pradesh	3.78	2.13	0.42	0.08	-	-
3	Assam	86.42	-	-	-	-	-
4	Bihar	303.30	692.24	929.56	414.19	432.79	351.14
5	Chhattisgarh	837.89	605.81	862.11	1,335.31	986.97	260.37
6	Delhi	14.09	8.48	14.68	14.98	12.99	-
7	Goa	4.71	1.54	3.46	0.21	0.38	0.15
8	Gujarat	1,684.70	1,392.83	1,911.18	1,508.22	1,687.33	1,771.48
9	Haryana	680.26	571.97	357.98	306.43	254.74	170.00
10	Himachal Pradesh	289.02	255.95	207.28	114.49	100.52	92.00
11	Jammu & Kashmir	139.88	87.04	84.54	108.63	73.07	113.71
12	Jharkhand	107.46	34.50	72.96	-	210.05	227.29
13	Karnataka	803.85	829.25	528.05	690.93	616.86	621.08
14	Kerala	101.54	38.91	37.00	11.17	466.95	19.23
15	Madhya Pradesh	1,195.80	1,351.99	74.99	79.94	991.97	-
16	Maharashtra	1,889.68	2,137.50	914.13	557.93	421.00	373.93
17	Manipur	145.95	179.16	115.47	28.55	122.47	64.42
18	Meghalaya	48.52	163.30	19.91	31.86	-	27.43
19	Mizoram	40.71	52.53	-	-	40.50	40.20
20	Nagaland	56.81	101.40	-	-	-	-
21	Odisha	1,072.87	1,175.35	1,988.91	1,708.08	4,014.52	3,823.64
22	Puducherry	0.96	0.41	0.75	0.86	2.50	0.63
23	Punjab	95.69	138.16	27.69	29.34	54.69	68.45
24	Rajasthan	571.03	677.22	704.23	708.93	668.15	438.73
25	Sikkim	90.19	48.05	40.95	13.25	33.76	3.65
26	Tamil Nadu	748.44	702.35	702.35	451.29	397.90	331.47
27	Telangana	-	-	804.46	2,365.98	4,380.59	4,896.73
28	Tripura	204.51	162.80	164.03	23.39	40.70	48.58
29	Uttarakhand	220.24	212.42	172.68	178.46	182.51	213.97
30	Uttar Pradesh	670.57	783.39	579.07	1,658.67	921.28	515.13
31	West Bengal	93.62	39.10	63.96	121.69	27.22	106.53
32	Andaman & Nicobar Island	11.16	11.28	11.84	13.00	11.25	7.13
33	Chandigarh	2.19	1.75	1.26	1.67	1.78	1.76
34	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2.00	2.00	2.20	2.25	2.20	2.00
35	Daman & Diu	0.08	-	0.11	-	0.10	0.15
36	Lakshadweep	0.22	0.28	-	-	-	-
<i>Grand Total</i>		16,290.66	16,190.71	13,484.12	13,815.96	19,904.09	16,885.07

¹http://www.mospi.gov.in/sites/default/files/reports_and_publication/statistical_publication/EnviStats/Component%206.pdf

Further, National Mission for a Green India is one of the eight Missions under the National Action Plan on Climate Change. It aims at protecting, restoring and enhancing India's forest cover and responding to climate change. The implementation of Green India Mission started in the year 2015-16. A sum of Rs. 237.07 crore has so far been released under the Green India Mission for undertaking afforestation activities over an area of 108313 ha. Convergence Guidelines of Green India Mission with Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) were issued in March and May, 2015 respectively.

Furthermore, the National Afforestation and Eco-development Board (NAEB), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change implements a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "National Afforestation Programme (NAP)" for regeneration of degraded forests and adjoining areas through people's participation.

(c) to (e) Various programmes and activities of the Central Government, State Governments, Public Sector Undertakings, private sector and civil society organizations contribute to enhancement of forest and tree cover and enable the government to meet India's Nationally Determined Contributions goal of creating an additional carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of CO2 equivalent through additional forest and tree cover by 2030.

Besides, the amount deposited in the state funds under Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016 is also to be utilized by the State Governments as per the provisions of the Compensatory Afforestation Funds Rules, 2018. The permissible activities include compensatory afforestation, catchment area treatment, integrated wildlife management, assisted natural regeneration, artificial regeneration etc. This fund is treated as additionality to the regular state budgets and compensatory levies that are collected against approvals under section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
