

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4287
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2019

Policy on Common Property Resources

4287. DR. RAJKUMAR RANJAN SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the Government has initiated any programmes for securing common property resources such as lakes, water bodies, pasture land, common forest land and urban forest;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to adopt effective national policy on such common property resources ; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) The primary concerns of the Ministry are implementation of policies and programmes relating to conservation of the country's natural resources including its lakes and rivers, its biodiversity, forests and wildlife, ensuring the welfare of animals, and the prevention and abatement of pollution. While implementing these policies and programmes, these objectives are well supported by a set of legislative and regulatory measures, aimed at the preservation, conservation and protection of the environment. Besides the legislative measures, the National Conservation Strategy and Policy Statement on Environment and Development, 1992 ; National Forest Policy, 1988 ; Policy Statement on Abatement of Pollution, 1992 ; and the National Environment Policy, 2006 also guide the Ministry's work.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) is implementing various programmes for securing common property resources such as lakes, water bodies, pasture land, common forest land and urban forest like implementing a centrally sponsored scheme namely, National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Eco-systems (NPCA) for conservation and management of wetlands including lakes in the country on cost sharing basis between Central Government and respective State Governments. The scheme aims at holistic conservation and restoration of wetlands including lakes for achieving the desired water quality enhancement, besides improvement in biodiversity and ecosystem through an integrated and multidisciplinary approach and a common regulatory framework.

Ministry has also been implementing a scheme for ecological restoration of degraded forest and adjoining land through afforestation, National Afforestation Programme (NAP) which is being implemented with participatory approach by National Afforestation and Eco – Development Board (NAEB). The programme has seven afforestation components including Pasture Development/Silvi Pasture model. Also, National Mission for a Green India (GIM) is one of the eight missions outlined under the National Action Plan on Climate Change. It aims at protecting, restoring and enhancing India’s forest cover and responding to Climate Change by means of plantation activities in forest and non-forest areas.

Further, the renovation of traditional and other water bodies /tanks is one of the intervention areas of Jal Shakti Abhiyan. The objectives of Jal Shakti Abhiyan inter alia aim at increased surface and ground water availability, sustainability of drinking water sources increase soil moisture etc. Inventorisation, restoration and rejuvenation efforts for water bodies that have existed since more than ten years and which have been served community for drinking water and other purposes has been undertaken
