

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 240
TO BE ANSWERED ON 6.03.2020

Restoration of Degraded Land

240. SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY:

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

- (a) the area categorised as degraded land across the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the area of degraded land that is proposed to be restored;
- (c) whether the Government is planning to promote organic agriculture to restore such land and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to enter into technology sharing agreements with other countries for the purposes of land restoration and water conservation in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a), (b), (c),(d) & (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARA (a), (b), (c),(d) & (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 240 ON RESTORATION OF DEGRADED LAND DUE FOR REPLY ON 6.03.2020

(a) As per the Desertification and Land Degradation Atlas of India, prepared by the Space Applications Centre for the period 2011-2013, 29.32 % of the Total Geographical Area of the country i.e. 96.4 million hectares is undergoing the process of degradation. The area categorized as degraded land , State/UT wise is as follows:

	Name of the State	Total Area under Desertification (hectares)	Total Area under Desertification (%)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2298758	14.35
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	153933	1.84
3.	Assam	716596	9.14
4.	Bihar	694809	7.38
5.	Chhatisgarh	2211153	16.36
6.	Delhi	89868	60.60
7.	Goa	192973	52.13
8.	Gujarat	10261641	52.29
9.	Haryana	338964	7.67
10.	Himachal Pradesh	2394240	43.01
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	7969607	35.86
12.	Jharkhand	5498726	68.98
13.	Karnataka	6951000	36.24
14.	Kerala	379587	9.77
15.	Madhya Pradesh	3804315	12.34
16.	Maharashtra	13825935	44.93
17.	Manipur	601959	26.96
18.	Meghalaya	494880	22.06
19.	Mizoram	187453	8.89
20.	Nagaland	786678	47.45
21.	Orissa	5304114	34.06
22.	Punjab	144653	2.87
23.	Rajasthan	21526512	62.90
24.	Sikkim	78749	11.10
25.	TamilNadu	1543898	11.87
26.	Telangana	3598856	31.34
27.	Tripura	437128	41.69
28.	Uttar Pradesh	1528997	6.35
29.	Uttarakhand	648253	12.12
30.	West Bengal	1733931	19.54
	Total	96398166	29.32

(b) India has committed to achieve Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) status by 2030. At the recently concluded 14th session of the Conference of Parties (CoP) of United Nations

Convention to Combat Desertification held in India in September, 2019, India has raised its ambition to restore degraded land from 21 mha to 26 mha by 2030.

(c) Government of India has been promoting organic farming in the states through dedicated schemes namely Mission Organic Value Chain Development North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER) and Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) since 2015-16. Both the schemes aim at promotion of cluster/ Farmers Producer Organization (FPO) based chemical free, low input cost sustainable organic farming and support farmers from input procurement to market linkages. Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) certified organic production is promoted under PKVY for domestic markets while MOVCDNER aims at 3rd party certified production of niche crops of north east region for exports. Third party certification of organic farming is promoted by Agriculture Processed Food and Export Development Authority (APEDA), Ministry of Commerce.

(d) and (e) During the 14th session of Conference of parties to United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (COP14 to UNCCD), Hon'ble Prime Minister of India announced the Government's support for, among other actions, an initiative for enhanced South-South Cooperation that aims to share India's experiences. His announcement, inter-alia, include to set up a centre for excellence in Indian Council for Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun..
