

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2946
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.03.2021

Increase in Forest Cover

2946. SHRI MOHAN MANDAVI:

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

- (a) the details of the schemes being implemented by the Government to increase the forest cover in rural and urban areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether any new guidelines have been issued by the Government for encouraging plantation across the country; and
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof, State/ UT-wise?

ANSWER

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

- (a) and (b) The National Forest Policy 1988 envisages the national goal to have a minimum of one- third of the total land area under forest or tree cover and two-third of the area under such cover in the hill and in mountainous regions of the country in order to prevent erosion and land degradation and to ensure the stability of fragile ecosystem. In consonance with NFP, 1988 Ministry has been taking several initiatives, to increase the forest and tree cover in rural and urban areas of the country as under:
 - i. For preservation and protection of forest & wildlife, various laws including the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980, Indian Forest Act, 1927, Wildlife Protection Act 1972, and other central/state laws as applicable to a State/UT, are implemented by the respective State Government /UT Administration. The Ministry also provides financial supports to the States /UTs under Forest Fire Prevention and Management Scheme for protection against forest fire.
 - ii. The MoEFCC is implementing two major afforestation schemes namely National Afforestation Programme (NAP) for tree plantation in degraded forests through people's participation and National Mission for a Green India (GIM), An area over 2 million hectare was sanctioned for taking up afforestation in the States/Union Territories (UTs) with an investment of about Rs. 3896 crores till 2019-20 under NAP since its launching year 2000 and under GIM an amount of about Rs. 343 crore has been released to States/UTs since 2015-16 to 2019-20. The State-wise details are given in Annexure I.
 - iii. The Government of India has disbursed an amount of Rs. 48477.77 crore from National Fund to 31 State funds as share of respective States as per

Compensatory Fund Act, 2016 till 31.01.2021. State/UT wise details are given in Annexure I.

- iv. The MoEFCC encourages plantation/ afforestation through people's participation under Nagar Van Yojana (NVY) for protection of urban forests. The scheme aims at creation of 200 Nagar Vans in different States during the period of 2020-21 to 2024-25.
- v. Further, tree plantation, being a multi-departmental, multi-agency activity, are also being taken up cross-sectorally under various programmes/funding sources of other ministries/ organizations and also through State Plan budgets.
- vi. The Department of Agriculture Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (DAC & FW) is implementing Sub-Mission on Agroforestry (SMAF) under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) since 2016-17 as part of the recommendation of the National Agroforestry Policy 2014 to promote plantation on farmlands. The scheme is being implemented in the States which have liberalized transit regulations for selected tree species. At present scheme is being implemented in 20 States and two UTs.
- vii. As per information received from Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), 1776 No. of parks over 3500 acres of land have been developed in the Mission cities which also contributed to the urban green cover.
- viii. Afforestation and tree planting activities, including in non-forest areas, are also taken up under various programmes/funding sources such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana and under the schemes/plans of States and UTs.

(c) The schemes implemented by the Ministry and other Ministries have their specific Guidelines. Further, the Ministry has issued advisories time to time to achieve the annual tree plantation targets with coordinated efforts by various agencies. The Ministry has also advised all States and UT Governments to step up tree planting drive to achieve plantation targets and also to put in place a sound mechanism for coordination and monitoring of tree plantation programme.

(d) The multi departmental efforts has yielded good results in conserving environment by addressing the problem of deforestation, besides keeping the pace of development, which is evident from the fact that the forest cover has stabilized and has been constantly increasing over the years. The latest 'India State of Forest Report (ISFR, 2019), of Forest Survey of India (FSI), revealed that the total forest and tree cover of the country is 807,276 square kilometres (which is 24.56 percent of the geographical area of the country. The State/UT wise details of Forest and Tree Cover as per ISFR, 2019 is given in Annexure II. There is an increase of about 13,000 square kilometer of forest and tree cover combined when compared to ISFR, 2015, at the national level.

Annexure I

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) and (b) of the Lok Sabha Un-starred Question No. 2946 due for reply on 12.03.2021 by Shri Mohan Mandavi regarding 'Increase in Forest Cover'.

A. State-wise Details of total funds released during the last three years (2017-18 to 2019-20) under National Afforestation Programme (NAP) and Green India Mission (GIM)

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	State	NAP	GIM
1	Andhra Pradesh	9.75	3.11
2	Bihar	5.41	-
3	Chhattisgarh	24.39	21.35
4	Gujarat	0.00	-
5	Haryana	2.71	-
6	Himachal Pradesh	5.17	-
7	Jammu & Kashmir	7.20	-
8	Jharkhand	0.00	-
9	Karnataka	14.22	4.69
10	Kerala	0.00	16.32
11	Madhya Pradesh	16.52	54.81
12	Maharashtra	22.06	10.30
13	Orissa	23.30	20.34
14	Punjab	0.00	9.40
15	Rajasthan	3.35	-
16	Tamil Nadu	2.07	-
17	Telangana	0.00	-
18	Uttar Pradesh	0.99	-
19	Uttarakhand	5.94	-
20	West Bengal	0.00	9.43
	Total (Other States)	143.10	149.75
	North Eastern states		
21	<i>Arunachal Pradesh</i>	0.86	-
22	<i>Assam</i>	0.58	-
23	<i>Manipur</i>	7.57	15.47
24	<i>Meghalaya</i>	2.38	-
25	<i>Mizoram</i>	13.59	60.07
26	<i>Nagaland</i>	14.60	-
27	<i>Sikkim</i>	5.98	6.45
28	<i>Tripura</i>	8.70	-
	Total (NE States)	54.26	81.99
	Grand Total	197.37	231.74

B. State-wise Details of Transfer of funds from the National Authority of CAMPA to States Authority

Sr No.	Name of State	Funds transferred on 31-01-2021 to States (Rs in crore)
1	Andhra Pradesh	1734.81
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1588.72
3	Assam	560.81
4	Bihar	522.95
5	Chhattisgarh	5791.70
6	Goa	238.16
7	Gujarat	1484.60
8	Haryana	1282.65
9	Himachal Pradesh	1660.72
10	Jharkhand	4158.02
11	Karnataka	1350.37
12	Kerala	81.59
13	Madhya Pradesh	5196.69
14	Maharashtra	3844.24
15	Manipur	309.76
16	Meghalaya	163.31
17	Mizoram	212.98
18	Odisha	5933.98
19	Punjab	1040.84
20	Rajasthan	1748.26
21	Sikkim	392.36
22	Tamil Nadu	113.42
23	Telangana	3110.38
24	Tripura	183.65
25	Uttar Pradesh	1819.63
26	Uttarakhand	2675.09
27	West Bengal	236.48
	Total (A)	47436.17
28	Andaman & Nicobar	16.41
29	Chandigarh	11.38
30	Jammu & Kashmir	764.54
31	Ladakh	249.27
	Total (B)	1041.60
	GRAND TOTAL (A+B)	48477.77

Annexure II

Annexure referred to in reply to part (d) of the Lok Sabha Un-starred Question No. 2946 due for reply on 12.03.2021 by Shri Mohan Mandavi regarding 'Increase in Forest Cover'.

State-wise details of Forest and Tree Cover in the country(As per ISFR, 2019)**(Area in Sq.km)**

Sl.No.	State/UT	Geographical Area	Forest cover	Tree Cover	Total Forest & Tree Cover
1	Andhra Pradesh	162968	28147	3753	31900
2	Arunachal Pradesh	83743	66964	807	67771
3	Assam	78438	28105	1496	29601
4	Bihar	94163	7299	2263	9562
5	Chhattisgarh	135192	55547	3833	59380
6	Delhi	1483	192	113	305
7	Goa	3702	2229	323	2552
8	Gujarat	196244	14757	8024	22781
9	Haryana	44212	1588	1415	3003
10	Himachal Pradesh	55673	15100	822	15922
11	Jammu & Kashmir	222236	23241	7815 *	31056
12	Jharkhand	79716	23553	2922	26475
13	Karnataka	191791	37550	5713	43263
14	Kerala	38852	20321	2959	23280
15	Madhya Pradesh	308252	77414	8073	85487
16	Maharashtra	307713	50682	9831	60513
17	Manipur	22327	17346	220	17566
18	Meghalaya	22429	17146	657	17803
19	Mizoram	21081	18186	467	18653
20	Nagaland	16579	12489	379	12868
21	Odisha	155707	51345	3993	55338
22	Punjab	50362	1837	1622	3459
23	Rajasthan	342239	16572	8266	24838
24	Sikkim	7096	3344	35	3379
25	Tamil Nadu	130060	26281	4671	30952
26	Telangana	112077	20419	2669	23088
27	Tripura	10486	7726	215	7941
28	Uttar Pradesh	240928	14679	7442	22121
29	Uttarakhand	53483	24295	767	25062
30	West Bengal	88752	16847	2136	18983
31	A & N Islands	8249	6742	35	6777
32	Chandigarh	114	22	10	32
33	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	491	207	30	237
34	Daman & Diu	111	20	10	30
35	Lakshadweep	30	27	2	29
36	Puducherry	490	54	27	81
	Grand TOTAL	3287469	708273	93815	802088

* Includes Jammu & Kashmir area outside LoC that is under illegal occupation of Pakistan and China.
