GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 850 TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.02.2021

Database of Forestry Sector

850. SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN: SHRI RAJESHBHAI CHUDASAMA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the unavailability of statistical data relating to forestry sector;
- (b) if so, details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to create a database of forestry wealth and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of revenue earned from forests during the last three years including the current year, State/UT- wise;
- (e) whether there is scarcity of timber products, medicinal plants, paper, gum, rubber, raw material and fruits due to shrinkage of forests across the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the corrective measures taken to overcome the problem?

ANSWER

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

(a)& (b) Forest Survey of India, Dehradun an organization under the Ministry carries out the assessment of forest cover of the country biennially since 1987 and the findings are published in India State of Forest Report (ISFR). The forest cover assessment is a wall-to-wall mapping exercise based on remote sensing supported by intensive ground verification and field data from National Forest Inventory. In addition, Forest Survey of India conducts inventory of forests within and outside forests using data from 30000 sample plots spread over the entire country to generate state & national level estimates of growing stock, forest carbon and bamboo. These statistics are published in ISFR.

As per the latest report i.e. ISFR- 2019, the total forest and tree cover in the country is 8,07,276 square kilometers (forest cover 7,12,249 square kilometer, tree cover 95,027 square kilometer) which is 24.56% of the geographical area of the country. There is an increase of 5,188 square kilometer (forest cover 3,976 square kilometer, tree cover 1,212 square kilometer) of total forest and tree cover compared to that of ISFR-2017.

- (c) There is no proposal to create another database to assess the forestry wealth of the country.
- (d) As per the information made available from State Forest Department, the revenue earned from forest for the last three years including the current year are given in Annexure.

- (e) There is no shrinkage of forest cover in the country. As per ISFR-2019, there is an increase of 5,188 square kilometer (forest cover 3,976 square kilometer, tree cover 1,212 square kilometer) of total forest and tree cover compared to that of ISFR-2017.
- (f) Various schemes are being implemented by Central and State Government to increase the supply of timber, medicinal plants, paper, gum, rubber, raw materials and fruits from forests. These include National Afforestation Programme and Green India Mission being implemented by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. Afforestation activities are also taken up under various programmes/funding sources such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana, Compensatory Afforestation Funds and under concerned State/UT schemes/plans.

Annexure

Annexure referred to reply in part (d) of the LokSabhaUnstarred Question No. 850 due for answer on 05.02.2021 regarding 'Database of Forestry Sector'

Details of revenue earned by State/UT Forest Department from 2017-18 to 2020-21.

(Rupees in Lakh)

State/UT	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020	2020-2021
Andhra Pradesh	33556.60	40640.130	4841.140	1341.450 (upto August, 2020)
Arunachal Pradesh	1344.07	1471.62	559.23	54.48 (upto July, 2020)
Gujarat	48025.47	4324.38	7228.40	Not provided
Haryana	3255.88	2660.63	2291.94	Not provided
Himachal Pradesh	4687.15	7631.59	8360.66	Not provided
Karnataka	31062.25	28011.21	24534.88	16019.96 (upto November, 2020)
Kerala	24541.57	28720.84	25144.59 (provisional)	14508.63 (provisional)
Maharashtra	15351.80	31468.61	27727.19	Not provided
Meghalaya	5561.17	7830.68	8127.17	4642.18 (upto December, 2020)
Mizoram	354.14	362.06	524.27	Not provided
Nagaland	Not provided	491.00	1300.09	300.06 (upto December, 2020)
Tripura	975.67	1195.65	1382.428	535.516 (upto August, 2020)
Uttar Pradesh	54591.00	35300.00	33201.00	11256.00 (upto 31August, 2020)
A&N Islands	2612.00	2603.46	1890.61	1050.00 (upto December, 2020)