

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2322**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2021

**Conservation of Forest Areas**

2322. SHRI MALOOK NAGAR:

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

- (a) the measures taken by the Government to conserve the forest areas and check the misuse of natural resources in the country particularly those along the banks of rivers in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) whether the Government has any scheme for the conservation of forest area and natural resources located along the banks of river Ganga flowing down from Bijnor and for the benefits of the general public; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**  
**(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

- (a) The National Forest Policy (NFP), 1988, envisages planting of trees on different types of lands including lands alongside rivers, streams and canals. To increase and improve the forest and tree cover in the country, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has taken several initiatives. These include Centrally Sponsored Schemes, such as National Afforestation Programme, National Mission for Green India and Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats. Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rules, 2018 also contain provisions for taking up assisted natural regeneration, artificial regeneration and silvi cultural operations, which contribute in conservation of forest and natural resources including those on the river banks. Afforestation and tree planting activities, including those on river banks, are also taken up under various programmes/funding sources of other Ministries of Government of India such as, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana and under the schemes/plans of States and Union Territories and also by corporate bodies, public institutions, civil society/NGOs and public sector undertakings, etc.

(b) & (c) The Ministry of Jal Shakti is implementing the Namami Gange Programme under the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG). Under the Programme, NMCG is providing funds to State Forest Departments of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal for afforestation works along the river Ganga and its tributaries.

Till date, 29,334 hectare area has been covered with plantation under the Namami Gange Programme which includes 7504 hectare area in Uttar Pradesh.

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