

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 4077
TO BE ANSWERED ON; 28.03.2022

Financial Assistance to curb Desertification.

4077. SHRI RITESH PANDEY

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

- (a) whether the Government has made an estimation of land which is facing desertification and if so, the details from 2019 to 2022, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government is taking any initiatives to stop water erosion, vegetation degradation, wind erosion, etc. with the help of community participation and awareness to stop desertification;
- (c) the details of financial assistance provided to curb desertification in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether any Expert Body/ Committee has been appointed in an advisory capacity or in any other way to make suggestions or recommendations to address the situation and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d)

Desertification and Land Degradation Atlas of India, published by Space Applications Centre, Indian Space Research Organisation, Ahmedabad, states that the land degradation and desertification in the country has been estimated to be 97.84 million hectares in 2018-19. The State –wise details in respect of Land Degradation/Desertification is at Annexure I.

The Government is implementing several schemes/ programmes to stop water erosion, vegetation degradation, wind erosion, etc. with the help of community participation and awareness to stop desertification which include inter –alia:

- (i) The National Afforestation Program: National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board (NAEB) is implementing National Afforestation Programme (NAP) for ecological restoration of degraded forests and adjoining areas through people's participation. The scheme is implemented through 3 tier institutional set up of State Forest Development Agency (SFDA) at State level, Forest Development agency (FDA) at Forest Division Level and Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at village level. An amount of 203.95 cr has been released to the states to treat an area

of 37110 hectares during 2018-21 under NAP. The State Wise/year wise details of approved area and fund release under NAP are given in Annexure II and III respectively. Now NAP scheme has been merged with Green India Mission.

- (ii) Green India Mission: National Mission for Green India (GIM) aims at protecting, restoring and enhancing India's forest cover by means of plantation activities in forest and non-forest areas. GIM activities were started in the FY 2015-16. So far, a sum of Rs. 594.28 Crores have been released to fifteen States namely Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Manipur, Mizoram, Odisha, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Sikkim, West Bengal, and one union territory Jammu & Kashmir for creation of plantation over an area of 117503 ha.
- (iii) Projects are taken to check land degradation under the National Mission on Himalayan Studies (NMHS) through community-based plantation towards land reclamation, land greening through afforestation and plantation towards watershed management. The total area on which land restoration activities have been conducted under NMHS, during 2016-17- 2021-22, is 955.9 ha with a budget of Rs. 14.24 crore
- (iv) Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojna (PMKSY): Department of Land Resources is implementing Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) since 2009-10, with objective to develop rainfed and degraded lands. The activities undertaken, *inter alia*, include ridge area treatment, drainage line treatment, soil and moisture conservation, rainwater harvesting, nursery raising, pasture development, livelihoods for asset less persons, etc through interventions seeks to ensure sustainable development through improved natural resource management and better resilience of farmers to climate change.
- (v) Government of India through various schemes under the ambit of afforestation parameter of the Twenty point programme, is annually taking up afforestation over 2.0 million hectares since 2019-20.

State and UT wise status of Land Degradation and desertification in India

	Name of the State	Total Area under Desertification (hectares) (2018-19)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2378042
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	200683
3.	Assam	834530
4.	Bihar	746586
5.	Chhatisgarh	2306531
6.	Delhi	91543
7.	Goa	194877
8.	Gujarat	10248057
9.	Haryana	364154
10.	Himachal Pradesh	2400300
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	1136013
12.	Jharkhand	5482260
13.	Karnataka	6959847
14.	Kerala	422299
15.	Ladakh	7098768
16.	Madhya Pradesh	3859735
17.	Maharashtra	14306029
18.	Manipur	612566
19.	Meghalaya	557576
20.	Mizoram	275827
21.	Nagaland	828943
22.	Orissa	5359014
23.	Punjab	167989
24.	Rajasthan	21237665
25.	Sikkim	84610
26.	TamilNadu	1599981
27.	Telangana	3638508
28.	Tripura	447378
29.	Uttar Pradesh	1549608
30.	Uttarakhand	673894
31.	West Bengal	1784345
	Total	97848160

NATIONAL AFFORESTATION AND ECO-DEVELOPMENT BOARD
NATIONAL AFFORESTATION PROGRAMME (NAP): Approved Advance Work
Area

Year-wise Summary

S No	State	(in hectares)				
		18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	1480	0	0	0	1480
2	Bihar	1550	1935	0	0	3485
3	Chhattisgarh	2000	3500	0	0	5500
4	Goa	0	0	0	0	0
5	Gujarat	0	0	0	0	0
6	Haryana	0	0	0	0	0
7	Himachal Pradesh	0	45	0	0	45
8	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0
9	Jharkhand	0	0	0	0	0
10	Karnataka	6085	0	0	0	6085
11	Kerala *	0	0	0	0	0
12	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0
13	Maharashtra	0	0	0	0	0
14	Orissa	3188	6335	0	0	9523
15	Punjab	0	0	0	0	0
16	Rajasthan	0	0	750	0	750
17	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0	0	0
18	Telangana	0	0	0	0	0
19	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0
20	Uttarakhand	0	0	0	0	0
21	West Bengal	0	0	0	0	0
	Total (Other States)	14303	11815	750	0	26868
22	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0
23	Assam	373	0	0	0	373
24	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0
25	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0
26	Mizoram	1960	0	0	0	1960
27	Nagaland	0	6100	0	0	6100
28	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0
29	Tripura	0	1809	0	0	1809
	Total (NE States)	2333	7909	0	0	10242
	TOTAL	16636	19724	750	0	37110

National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board
National Afforestation Programme: Amount Released Year-Wise

S. No.	State	Year				TOTAL
		2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	
1	Andhra Pradesh	6.38				6.38
2	Bihar		1.18	0.80	4.29	6.27
3	Chhattisgarh	7.82	5.71	9.88	5.56	28.98
4	Goa					0.00
5	Gujarat					0.00
6	Haryana					0.00
7	Himachal Pradesh	2.92	0.52	0.57		4.02
8	Jammu & Kashmir					0.00
9	Jharkhand					0.00
10	Karnataka	10.99			9.01	20.00
11	Kerala					0.00
12	Madhya Pradesh	7.78		0.57		8.35
13	Maharashtra	15.33				15.33
14	Orissa	11.36	8.45	13.67	7.77	41.25
15	Punjab					0.00
16	Rajasthan	1.95				1.95
17	Tamil Nadu	2.07				2.07
18	Telangana					0.00
19	Uttar Pradesh	0.32				0.32
20	Uttarakhand	2.58		1.06		3.64
21	West Bengal					0.00
	Total (Other States)	69.51	15.87	26.55	26.63	138.56
	North Eastern states					
22	<i>Arunachal Pradesh</i>					0.00
23	<i>Assam</i>	0.58				0.58
24	<i>Manipur</i>	4.38				4.38
25	<i>Meghalaya</i>	0.74				0.74
26	<i>Mizoram</i>	7.79		7.40	5.14	20.33
27	<i>Nagaland</i>	6.41	2.35	4.27	10.65	23.68
28	<i>Sikkim</i>	5.98		0.88		6.86
29	<i>Tripura</i>		3.76	1.33	3.75	8.84
	Total (NE States)	25.87	6.11	13.87	19.54	65.39
	G. Total	95.38	21.98	40.42	46.17	203.95