

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOKSABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3606
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.08.2022

Conservation of Forest in Madhya Pradesh

3606 SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH PATEL:
SHRI DURGA DAS (D.D.) UIKEY:

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

- (a) the details of the steps taken to reduce the dependence on conventional energy for environmental protection in the country;
- (b) the details of the schemes being implemented for forest conservation in Madhya Pradesh especially in tribal areas;
- (c) the details of positive outcomes of the schemes for forest conservation and expansion in Madhya Pradesh; and
- (d) whether there is a proposal of any special scheme for forest conservation in aspirational districts and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a) As per the information provided by the Ministry of Power, following steps have been taken by the government to reduce the dependence on conventional energy for environment protection in the country:
- (i) The capacity of about 18058.24 MW of inefficient and old thermal power generation units has already been retired till date. Additionally, NTPC has planned for phasing out few more units. The details of the same are given below:

Sl. No.	Plant Name	State	Capacity & Configuration (MW)
1.	Barauni	Bihar	220 (2X110)
2.	Tanda	U.P.	440 (4X110)

- (ii) In respect of Thermal Power Plants (TPP), many TPP already adopted use of efficient technologies i.e. from subcritical to supercritical and now using ultra-supercritical technology in order to improve efficiency, thereby reducing coal consumption and emissions. A total capacity of Supercritical/ Ultra-supercritical units of 61,710 MW (89 Units) and 1320 MW (2 units) has been commissioned respectively till date. Moreover, NTPC, in collaboration with Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR) and BHEL, is also developing Advance

Ultra Super Critical Technology, with enhanced efficiency of about 46% and over 15% less CO₂ emission as compared to conventional 500MW sub-critical thermal power projects. The R&D Phase of the technology has been completed and the execution of the Demonstration Plant is under planning stage.

- (iii) Nuclear Power Plants of 8,700 MW of capacity are under construction and 7000 MW of Nuclear power plants have been accorded Administrative Approval and Financial Sanction.
- (iv) Hydro Power Plants of 14103.50 MW of capacity are at various stages of construction in the country
- (v) The Government of India announced target of 175 GW renewable capacity by 2022. As on 30.06.2022, the renewable capacity in India is 160.91 GW(including large hydro power) and 114.06 GW (excluding large hydro).

Moreover, the Government has taken several steps to attract investment in renewable energy sector in the country. These include:

- Permitting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) up to 100 percent under the automatic route,
- Waiver of Inter State Transmission System (ISTS) charges for inter-state sale of solar and wind power for projects to be commissioned by 30th June 2025,
- Declaration of trajectory for Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) up to the year 2029-30.
- Setting up of Ultra Mega Renewable Energy Parks to provide land and transmission to RE developers on a plug and play basis.
- Schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Surakshaevam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM), Solar Rooftop Phase II, 12000 MW CPSU Scheme Phase II, etc.
- Laying of new transmission lines and creating new sub-station capacity under the Green Energy Corridor Scheme for evacuation of renewable power.
- Setting up of Project Development Cell for attracting and facilitating investments.
- Standard Bidding Guidelines for tariff based competitive bidding process for procurement of Power from Grid Connected Solar PV and Wind Projects.

(b)& (c) As per the information provided by the Government of Madhya Pradesh all the schemes contributing to conservation of forest are implemented across the state. The detail of schemes under Tribal sub-plan in the State is as below:

S. No.	Scheme code as per the Budget Book	Name of the Scheme
1	3730	Overall development of Wildlife Habitat
2	3896	Compensation in human wildlife animal conflict

3	5109	Compensation for rehabilitation of Villages
4	7488	Forest Development Agency
5	7882	Implementation of Working Plan
6	5317	Intensive Forest Management

Further, the National Forest Policy (NFP), 1988, encourages planting of trees on different types of lands in the country including Madhya Pradesh. 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 Development of Wildlife Habitats. Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rules, 2018 also contain provisions for taking up assisted natural regeneration, artificial regeneration and silvicultural operations, which contribute conservation of forest and natural resources.

The State Government has intimated that the forest cover of the State has improved in the last two decades due to efficient implementation of the various schemes. Some of the highlights are given below-

- (i) Under community based forest restoration programme 4.3 lakh hectare has been completely restored spread across the 1152 villages of the state.
 - (ii) The forest cover of the state has increased from 76429 sq.km. in 2003 to 77492.60 sq.km. in 2021 as per the ISFRs prepared by Forest Survey of India.
- (d) As per the information provided by the NITI Aayog, the template of the Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP) involves identification of key performance indicators, robust monitoring of progress and granting additional allocation to the districts on basis of their performance. 49 key performance indicators have been selected across 5 sectors identified under the Programme, i.e., Health & Nutrition, Education, Financial Inclusion & Skill Development, Basic Infrastructure and Agriculture & Water Resources. A district's performance is monitored on the basis of progress made on these indicators and every month, districts are ranked on the basis of progress made. This instils a sense of competition in them which results in rapid improvement. The best performing Districts in overall terms and in each of the five sectors are rewarded with additional allocation for their performance. The main strategy of the Aspirational Districts Programme is based on convergence of existing schemes which have their own funding arrangement.

As per the project guidelines, once the districts concerned become eligible for the additional allocation on the basis of performance, they are to formulate a plan of action by listing projects to be funded by such grant. There is no proposal for any special scheme for forest conservation in aspirational districts.
