GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1109 TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.07.2024

Chopping of Fully Grown Trees in Uttar Pradesh

1109. SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI:

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

- (a) whether the State Government of Uttar Pradesh has informed the Government and National Green Tribunal about the chopping of over 33000 fully grown trees and 78946 plants, if so, whether the Government assessed the environmental impact caused by it and if so, the report thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has any specific strategy to tackle the environmental impacts caused by this event and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government has considered any alternative ways other than cutting 33000 fully grown trees and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) to (c) Protection and management of forest and tree resources is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. There are legal frameworks for the protection and management of forest and tree resources of the country which include, the Indian Forest Act 1927, Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980, Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972 and State Forest Acts, Tree Preservation Acts and Rules, etc. The State Governments / UT Administrations take appropriate actions to protect forests and trees under the provisions made under these Acts / Rules.

Whenever, any felling of tree is done for taking up a development project approved under relevant law, adequate compensatory activities are taken up to address possible environmental impacts.

As per a report received from the State Forest Department of Uttar Pradesh, all the rules, regulations, and guidelines issued are followed before giving permission for the felling /removal of trees in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
