

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 3366
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.12.2024

Afforestation Programmes under Green Credit Programme

3366. DR. JAYANTA KUMAR ROY:

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

- (a) whether the Government has undertaken afforestation or biodiversity conservation projects in North Bengal particularly in Jalpaiguri, under the Green India Mission and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the steps being taken to mitigate the recurring human-wildlife conflicts in forested areas of Jalpaiguri; and
- (c) whether the adequate compensation has been provided to affected families, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) National Mission for a Green India (GIM) is one of the eight Missions outlined under the National Action Plan on Climate Change. It aims at protecting, restoring, and enhancing India's forest cover and responding to Climate Change by undertaking plantation activities in the forest and non-forest areas. GIM activities in the State of West Bengal were started in the FY 2019-20. GIM follows landscape approach and as per the approved perspective plan of West Bengal the activities are being taken up in five landscapes/districts namely Bankura, Birbhum, Burdwan, Purulia and Paschim Medinipur. So far, a sum of Rs. 10.95 crores have been released to the State of West Bengal for creation of plantation/eco-restoration under Green India Mission.

(b) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has issued holistic advisories/guidelines to the States and Union Territories on 6th February 2021 and 3rd June, 2022. The Ministry has also issued species-specific guidelines to deal with human-wildlife conflict situations.

(c) Ministry provides financial assistance to States/UTs for conservation of wildlife and its habitats under the Centrally Sponsored schemes – 'Development of Wildlife Habitats', 'Project Tiger and Elephant'. The activities supported under the scheme include construction/erection of physical barrier such as barbed wire fence, solar powered electric fence, bio-fencing using cactus, boundary walls etc. to prevent of wild animals into crop fields. The Ministry has

enhanced ex-gratia payment for human casualties due to human-wildlife conflict from Rs. 5.0 lakh to Rs. 10.0 lakhs under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitat.

A network of Protected Areas namely viz., National Park, Sanctuaries, Conservation Reserves and Community Reserves covering important wildlife habitat have been created all over the country under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to conserve wild animals and their habitats.

In accordance with provisions contained under Section 33 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, the Ministry has issued guidelines for the process of management planning for Protected Areas and other process of management planning for Protected Areas and other landscape elements.
