

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3793**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.03.2025

**Green Gross Domestic Product**

3793. SMT. ROOPKUMARI CHOUDHARY:

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

- (a) the details of the special efforts being made by the Government to sustain and further increase the forest cover;
- (b) the present status of the economic assessment of forest ecosystem services under the Green-Gross Domestic Product (Green-GDP) initiative and the manner in which it is being incorporated into State economic plans;
- (c) the progress of implementation of the eco-restoration policy and the benefits achieved so far in the promotion of forests and biodiversity conservation; and
- (d) the future plans for the conservation of the Devgudi sites and the manner in which local communities are benefiting from the conservation of these sites?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) The Government of India has formulated adequate legal and regulatory frameworks at national and state levels which regulate the protection, conservation and management of the forests of the country, though protection and management of forests is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The major central level policy and legislations concerning the management and conservation of forests include the National Forest Policy, 1988, Indian Forest Act, 1927, Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, *Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam* 1980, and Biological Diversity Act, 2002, etc. To bring more areas under green cover, the Government is implementing various schemes such as National Mission for a Green India (GIM), Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats, Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA), Nagar Van Yojana (NVY) and Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes (MISHTI). The schemes primarily support ecological restoration through afforestation in and outside forest areas, forest landscape restoration, habitat improvement, soil and water conservation measures and protection etc. In addition to these the voluntary tree plantation campaign “*Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam*” was launched by Hon’ble Prime Minister on 5th June 2024 to undertake plantation activities across the country.
- (b) To help the development of environmental- economic accounts, a high- level Expert Group was constituted by Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation

(MoSPI) in 2011 with the mandate of developing a framework for Green National Accounts of India and preparing a roadmap to implement the framework. The Expert Group recommended compilation of the accounts envisaged in the System of Environmental- Economic Accounting (SEEA) which is an internationally agreed framework for the compilation of the Environment Accounts. In accordance to the recommendations of the Experts Group, since 2018, MoSPI compiles environment accounts for various ecosystems following the SEEA framework after due consultation from the Inter-Ministerial Group on Environmental –Economic Accounting- India. As regards the Forest ecosystem information on its extents, condition and the services provided, the same are published in the ‘EnviStats India: Environment Accounts’, by MoSPI with the seventh consecutive issue of the publication “EnviStats India 2024: Environment Accounts” having been released on 30 September 2024.

- (c) The Government has been undertaking a number of steps to increase forest cover, reduce emissions, combat land degradation, restore ecosystems and enrich biodiversity as part of its holistic approach to conservation. The specific measures taken include incorporation of mitigation and adaptation strategies under several flagship Urban Missions/ Schemes of Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) viz. Swachh Bharat Mission - Urban (SBM-U), Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), Smart Cities Mission (SCM), Pradhan Mantri AwasYojana - Urban (PMAY-U) and Metro Rail Projects. The Amrit Dharohar scheme has been announced to encourage optimal use of wetlands, to enhance bio-diversity and carbon stock and create eco-tourism opportunities and income generation for local communities. Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes (MISHTI) is being undertaken through National Coastal Mission (NCM) for restoration of degraded mangrove areas, protection of shorelines and as a climate mitigation and adaptation measure. Besides the above, the Government has also taken several initiatives for protection of biodiversity and environmental conservation through formulation and implementation of National Action Plan for Climate Change (NAPCC) which outlines eight missions viz., National Solar Mission, National Mission on Sustainable Habitat, National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency, National Water Mission, National Mission for Sustaining Himalayan Ecosystem, Green India Mission, National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture and National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change. Besides, National Plan for conservation of Aquatic Ecosystems (NPCA); Biosphere Reserve; Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas; Water Resources programme for Repair, Renovation & Restoration of Water bodies; Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA). Further, Programmes like the National Green Hydrogen Mission, National Clean Air Programme (NCAP), Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM), PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana are also being implemented for reducing emissions and environmental conservation.
- (d) Devgudis, play a vital role in the lives of tribal communities as centres of faith and living traditions. The State Government of Chhattisgarh has allotted Rs. 420.00 lakhs for construction and upgradation of 187 Devgudis for the FY 2024-25.

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