

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 519
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.03.2026

Contribution of Forests and Forests based Activities to GDP

*519. SHRI TRIVENDRA SINGH RAWAT:

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

- (a) whether the Government maintains data or has conducted assessment to determine the current contribution of forests and forest-produce-based activities to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to set up a specific target regarding the contribution of forests and forest produce to the GDP in order to enhance the income and employment opportunities through the said means and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any special scheme has been formulated to increase the income and employment opportunities for local communities of the States alongside forest conservation and having more than 60 per cent of the area under forest cover; and
- (d) if so, the key provisions and the framework for the implementation thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (D) IN RESPECT OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 519 FOR REPLY ON 30.03.2026 REGARDING 'CONTRIBUTION OF FORESTS AND FORESTS BASED ACTIVITIES TO GDP' ASKED BY SHRI TRIVENDRA SINGH RAWAT:

- (a) As per the information compiled by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, the contribution of "Forestry and logging" to the Gross Value Added (GVA) for the year 2024-25 is 1.4 per cent.
- (b) to (d) The National Forest Policy, 1988 aims to ensure environment stability and maintenance of ecological balance, increasing the productivity of forests, meeting the requirements of fuelwood, fodder, minor forest produce and small timber of the rural and tribal population, as well as to provide gainful employment to people living in and around the forest.

Further, the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 is being implemented which recognizes the rights of the forest dwelling tribal communities and other traditional forest dwellers to forest resources, on which these communities were dependent for a variety of needs, including livelihood, habitation and other socio-cultural needs.

Accordingly, the Government is implementing several schemes like National Mission for a Green India (Green India Mission), MISHTI (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes), Nagar Van Yojana, School Nursery Yojna, and Compensatory Afforestation Fund, for sustainable management of forest resources and to enhance the livelihood opportunities for local communities.

Under various afforestation and wildlife conservation programmes, Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) and Eco Development Committees (EDCs) are constituted at the village levels, which enables community participation in sustainable forest management and wildlife conservation, while addressing the livelihood needs of local communities.

Further, states, such as Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh, have established forest cooperative federations, namely the Chhattisgarh State Minor Forest Produce (Trading and Development) Co-operative Federation and the Madhya Pradesh State Minor Forest Produce (Trade and Development) Co-operative Federation, to enhance livelihood opportunities for communities residing in forest areas.
