

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 345
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.02.2026

Initiatives to Increase Forest Cover in Rajasthan

345. SHRI RAHUL KASWAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken cognizance of the high level of air pollution and worsening figures of Air Quality Index in various cities of the country, including non-metropolitan and semi-arid areas, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the forest and tree cover in Rajasthan is around 4.84 per cent of the total geographical area and in districts like Churu it is around 0.45 to 0.60 per cent according to the Indian State of Forest Report (ISFR), if so, the initiatives taken to increase the green cover in areas with low forest cover during the last five years; and
- (c) whether any assessment has been made on the combined impact of low forest cover and extreme temperatures including severe winter and scorching summer conditions in districts like Churu, if so, the measures taken in existing Schemes to strengthen environmental and climate stability in such areas?

ANSWER

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

(a): Government identified 122 non-attainment cities, including non-metropolitan and semi-arid areas, in 2019, where the air pollution levels have consecutively exceeded the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for five years for PM10 levels during 2014-18. List of 122 non-attainment cities are enclosed at **Annexure I**.

To implement National level action plan to mitigate air pollution across the country, Government launched the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) in 2019 as a nationwide strategy aimed at reducing air pollution in 130 cities, including the 122 identified non-attainment cities, spread across 24 States and Union Territories. In Rajasthan, five cities namely Jaipur, Jodhpur, Kota, Udaipur, and Alwar were covered under the NCAP framework.

(b) to (c): As per India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2023, forest and tree cover of State of Rajasthan is 8% of its geographical area. District of Churu has forest cover of 0.45% of its total geographical area. Regular efforts are being made to increase the green cover in Rajasthan by

taking up plantation in forest land & enhance the Bio-diversity of the area. District-wise details of plantation carried out by the Forest Department Rajasthan from the FY 2021–22 to FY 2025–26 is presented at **Annexure-II**.

Hariyalo Rajasthan, a special plantation drive was launched on 7th August 2024 on the occasion of Hariyali Teej, for a period of five years, with a target of planting 50 crore saplings across the State. So far, 18.95 crore saplings have been planted during the last two years. In Churu district, plantation activities covering 2,034.60 hectares have been undertaken during the last five years. Under the Hariyalo Rajasthan initiative, 54.33 lakh saplings have been planted in the district during the last two years.

Further, under the “Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam” initiative, a nationwide tree plantation campaign launched by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), a total of 22.17 crore seedlings were planted in Rajasthan during the period from 4th June 2024 to 25th January 2026.

Additionally, under the Nagar Van Yojana, a flagship urban forestry initiative of the Ministry, an amount of ₹35.72 crore has been released for the development of Nagar Vans/Nagar Vatikas, covering an area of 1,179.90 hectares across Rajasthan, out of which ₹5.00 crore has been released to Churu District for the plantation activities covering 140 hectares.

Rajasthan has prepared State Action Plan for Climate Change (SAPCCs). Rajasthan State Action Plan on Climate Change (RSAPCC, 2022) addresses the climate vulnerabilities, risks and impacts that are specific to the State of Rajasthan as well as the opportunities, adaptation and mitigation measures that can be adopted at the State and disaggregated levels. It outlines the State's strategies for a range of sectors including water, agriculture, health, forest and biodiversity, socioeconomic growth, and urban governance.

Annexure I

List of 122 Non-Attainment Cities

States	Sl. No.	Cities
Andhra Pradesh	1	Ananthpur
	2	Chittur
	3	Eluru
	4	Guntur
	5	Kadapa
	6	Kurnool
	7	Nellore
	8	Ongole
	9	Rajamuhndary
	10	Srikakulam
	11	Vijayawada
	12	Visakhapatnam
	13	Vizhianagaram
Assam	14	Guwahati
	15	Nagaon
	16	Nalbari
	17	Silchar
	18	Sivasagar
Bihar	19	Patna
	20	Gaya
	21	Muzaffarpur
Chandigarh	22	Chandigarh
Chattisgarh	23	Korba
	24	Durg Bhilainagar
	25	Raipur
Delhi	26	Delhi
Gujarat	27	Ahmedabad
	28	Surat
	29	Vadodara
Himachal Pradesh	30	Baddi
	31	Damtal
	32	Kala Amb
	33	Nalagarh
	34	Paonta Sahib
	35	Parwanoo
	36	Sunder Nagar
Jammu	37	Jammu
	38	Srinagar
Jharkhand	39	Dhanbad
Karnataka	40	Bengaluru

States	Sl. No.	Cities
	41	Devanagere
	42	Gulburga / Kalaburgi
	43	Hubli-Dharwad
Madhya Pradesh	44	Bhopal
	45	Dewas
	46	Gwalior
	47	Indore
	48	Sagar
	49	Ujjain
Maharashtra	50	Aurangabad
	51	Akola
	52	Amravati
	53	Badlapur
	54	Chandrapur
	55	Greater Mumbai
	56	Jalgaon
	57	Jalna
	58	Kolhapur
	59	Latur
	60	Nagpur
	61	Nashik
	62	Navi Mumbai
	63	Pune
	64	Sangli
	65	Solapur
	66	Thane
	67	Ulhasnagar
Meghalaya	68	Bynihat
Nagaland	69	Dimapur
	70	Kohima
Odisha	71	Angul
	72	Balasore
	73	Bhubneshwar
	74	Cuttack
	75	Kalinga Nagar
	76	Rourkela
	77	Talcher
Punjab	78	Amritsar
	79	Dera Baba Nanak
	80	Dera Bassi
	81	Jalandhar
	82	Khanna
	83	Ludhiana

States	Sl. No.	Cities
	84	Mandi Gobindgarh
	85	Naya Nangal
	86	Patiala
Rajasthan	87	Jaipur
	88	Alwar
	89	Jodhpur
	90	Kota
	91	Udaipur
	92	Madurai
	93	Trichy
Tamil Nadu	94	Tuticorin
	95	Hyderabad
	96	Nalgonda
Telangana	97	Sangareddy
	98	Agra
	99	Allahabad
	100	Ghaziabad
	101	Kanpur
	102	Lucknow
	103	Varanasi
	104	Anpara
	105	Bareily
	106	Firozabad
	107	Gajraula
	108	Gorakhpur
	109	Jhansi
Uttar Pradesh	110	Khurja
	111	Moradabad
	112	Noida
	113	Raebareli
	114	Dehradun
	115	Kashipur
	116	Rishikesh
	117	Asansol
	118	Barrackpore
	119	Durgapur
	120	Haldia
	121	Howrah
	122	Kolkata
West Bengal		

Annexure-II

District-wise details of plantation carried out by the Forest Department Rajasthan from the FY 2021–22 to FY 2025–26.

S.No.	District	Plantations during FY 2021–22 in hectares	Plantations during FY 2022 -23 in hectares	Plantations during FY 2023-24 in hectares	Plantations during FY 2024-25 in hectares	Plantations during FY 2025-upto 28-01-2026 in hectares
1	Ajmer	501.07	1500.00	1910.11	2790.00	2588.50
2	Alwar	1307.33	2450.00	4300.00	4200.00	2050.00
3	Banswara	1147.08	1667.00	1500.00	1550.00	1685.00
4	Baran	950.00	1950.00	2175.89	2997.22	4000.00
5	Barmer	363.20	626.51	2033.37	1200.00	2123.00
6	Bharatpur	500.00	925.00	1500.00	950.00	800.00
7	Bhilwara	796.86	1750.00	1672.87	2852.05	1475.00
8	Bikaner	420.14	1794.58	3486.11	3949.65	2988.45
9	Bundi	600.00	1479.85	3561.67	2574.41	3103.00
10	Chittorgarh	2233.48	2725.00	4352.40	2352.00	3084.14
11	Churu	200.00	374.00	770.00	400.00	290.60
12	Dausa	1096.49	1375.00	1822.90	825.00	750.00
13	Dholpur	790.00	1190.00	1500.00	2328.88	2650.00
14	Dungarpur	863.87	1260.00	1743.68	1250.00	2000.00
15	Sriganganagar	333.69	1190.72	2692.55	3225.00	378.88
16	Hanumangarh	1023.35	1578.35	3145.00	1150.00	1475.00
17	Jaipur	1850.00	2800.00	2459.02	3980.00	2424.45
18	Jaisalmer	1420.00	2896.00	4821.21	7061.67	6377.43
19	Jalore	650.00	1050.00	1300.00	900.00	231.36
20	Jhalawar	754.48	1325.00	3078.11	2350.00	3175.00
21	Jhunjhunu	1165.52	2259.17	2359.50	2550.00	300.00
22	Jodhpur	485.00	409.75	600.00	1225.00	1502.53
23	Karauli	750.00	600.00	3019.33	1700.00	1961.51
24	Kota	1100.00	1856.00	3250.00	3168.50	4832.30
25	Nagaur	775.00	2175.00	3020.00	2870.00	1330.00
26	Pali	650.00	349.72	900.00	400.00	1013.44
27	Pratapgarh	1600.00	2950.00	3358.17	1677.72	2404.02
28	Rajsamand	1100.00	828.95	2950.00	2100.00	1831.71
29	S. Madhopur	1317.00	1450.00	4525.97	3950.00	1450.00
30	Sikar	1251.88	2420.00	2550.00	2950.00	428.40
31	Sirohi	326.34	825.00	1238.51	1200.00	1192.83
32	Tonk	720.00	1915.00	2147.87	1600.00	1782.00

S.No.	District	Plantations during FY 2021–22 in hectares	Plantations during FY 2022 -23 in hectares	Plantations during FY 2023-24 in hectares	Plantations during FY 2024-25 in hectares	Plantations during FY 2025-upto 28-01-2026 in hectares
33	Udaipur	3400.79	6665.00	6976.18	5255.00	5719.39
Total Plantation (in hectares)		32442.57	56610.59	86720.40	79532.09	69397.94