

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3752
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2026

Climate Resilience Programmes

3752. SHRI VISHNU DATT SHARMA:

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

- (a) whether the Government is implementing afforestation, wildlife conservation and climate-resilience programmes nationwide to support ecological sustainability and community livelihoods;
- (b) whether eco-restoration, afforestation or wildlife-linked livelihood initiatives have been undertaken in forest areas of Katni, Panna and Khajuraho region, including around Panna Tiger Reserve;
- (c) the details of employment generated, community participation and eco-tourism benefits recorded locally;
- (d) whether the conservation investments remain inadequate or livelihood benefits limited, if so, the reasons and corrective steps taken in this regard; and
- (e) the plan to integrate forest protection with eco-tourism, local enterprises and climate resilient livelihoods so that conservation efforts translate into sustainable income in these districts?

ANSWER

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

- (a) to (e) The Government provides financial assistance to States/Union Territories under various schemes and programmes for afforestation, wildlife conservation and climate resilience, including the Green India Mission, Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats, Project Tiger, Project Elephant, Nagar Van Yojana and activities supported under CAMPA.

Under the Project Tiger component of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats (CSS-IDWH), financial assistance is provided to tiger range States, including Panna Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh, for activities such as habitat management, protection measures, eco-development, infrastructure and human resource development, tribal welfare, awareness generation and use of scientific advancements, as per the sanctioned Annual Plan of Operation based on the statutory Tiger Conservation Plan.

Activities taken up in forest areas of Katni, Panna and Chhatarpur districts, including around Panna Tiger Reserve, include conservation and eco-restoration works such as habitat improvement, soil and moisture conservation works, assisted natural regeneration, grassland development,

protection measures including maintenance of anti-poaching camps and fire lines, and eco-development activities. These activities generate employment opportunities for local communities through plantation works, habitat management and eco-development programmes, while community participation is facilitated through Joint Forest Management Committees and Eco-Development Committees. Tourism activities in and around tiger reserves are carried out in accordance with the National Tiger Conservation Authority (Normative Standards for Tourism Activities and Project Tiger) Guidelines, 2012.

The works undertaken under the various schemes and programmes generate employment for local people through plantation and protection activities, while providing livelihood support such as community-based eco-tourism services, handicrafts, nature guides and other forest-based enterprises in areas adjoining protected areas. Financial and physical progress, including employment generation and community participation, is monitored by the respective State Government/Union Territory Administration under the guidelines of the concerned schemes.

The adequacy of conservation investments and livelihood outcomes vary depending on factors such as local ecological conditions, availability of suitable land for restoration, capacity of community institutions and market linkages for nature-based enterprises. Financial assistance under the above schemes covers activities relating to habitat restoration, afforestation, wildlife conservation, eco-development and livelihood support, including activities through Eco-Development Committees, community-based eco-tourism, capacity building of local communities and value addition and marketing of non-timber forest produce. These interventions integrate forest protection with eco-tourism, local enterprises and climate-resilient livelihoods.
