GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2961 TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.12.2015

RAILWAY LAND UNDER AFFORESTATION

2961. DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total hectare of railway land under afforestation during the last three years;

(b) the number of saplings planted on railway land under the afforestation during the above period;

(c) the target fixed by the railways for sapling plantation during this year;

(d) whether the Government has planned track side boundary plantation in the entire railway network and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other steps taken by the railways for clean India and green India mission?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a): Area of Railway land under afforestation during the last three years viz., 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 is 43431 hectares, 40613 hectares and 39646 hectares respectively.

(b): The number of saplings planted on Railway land during the last three years viz., 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 are 68.25 lakh, 69.10 lakh and 60.80 lakh respectively.

(c): A target of 75 lakh saplings plantation has been fixed for the year 2015-16.

(d): Due to safety consideration of running trains, track side boundary plantation on Railway network is generally not preferred.

(e): Under clean India Mission, regular events on cleanliness are planned and organised to improve and maintain cleanliness at Railway premises including Railway stations and tracks. Enforcement of Indian Railways (Penalties for activities affecting cleanliness at railway premises) Rules, 2012 has also been intensified. Under Green India Mission, efforts are to plant more and more trees to take care of the loss of trees due to infrastructural projects, so target for 75 lakh sapling plantation has been fixed for the year 2015-16. Special emphasis is being laid to minimise damage to the ecology of the area while planning the infrastructural projects.

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