

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 159
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.07.2026

Namo Oxygen Parks

159. SHRI ANTO ANTONY:

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

- (a) whether the "Namo Oxygen Parks" were developed as part of a Supreme Court-directed compensatory measure for the illegal felling of over 1,100 trees in Delhi's Southern Ridge; if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the reasons for Delhi Development Authority alleged proceeding with tree felling in a protected forest without complying with statutory environmental safeguards;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted an independent ecological audit to assess whether compensatory plantations adequately offset the environmental loss caused by the tree felling; and
- (d) the total public expenditure incurred on compensatory afforestation and restoration following the illegal tree felling in the Southern Ridge?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): Urban afforestation initiatives such as the Nagar Vans, City Forests, and other urban green space programmes are being implemented across the country to enhance the ecological health and liveability of cities. These measures aim to develop and restore green spaces in urban and peri-urban areas through the creation of city forests, biodiversity parks, urban woodlands etc.; which contributes to improving air quality, mitigating the urban heat island effect, conserving biodiversity, enhancing carbon sequestration, and providing recreational and educational spaces for citizens. Such initiatives also promote community participation, environmental awareness, and climate resilience while supporting the broader objectives of sustainable urban development, increasing green cover outside forests, and improving the overall quality of life in urban areas including the National Capital Region in which at total of 14 Nagar Vans have been sanctioned under the Nagar Van Yojana Scheme of the Ministry.

Similarly, such plantation activities are also undertaken with funds from various sources of the State/UT governments. As per the information received from the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi one such initiative is the creation of Namo Oxygen parks for which the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) had transferred ₹46.13 crore to the Department of Forests & Wildlife, Government of NCT of Delhi, towards compensatory afforestation and ecological restoration, including plantation and maintenance thereof for a period of seven years have been undertaken.
