

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 190
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.08.2024

Promotion of afforestation and Reforestation

190*. SHRI YOGENDER CHANDOLIA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has set any targets to increase the green cover in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to promote afforestation and reforestation efforts in the country;
- (c) the details of the schemes and programs launched by the Government to encourage individuals, communities and organizations to plant trees and promote greenery;
- (d) the progress made so far in achieving the targets set under the National Forest Policy, 2018;
- (e) the measures taken by the Government to protect and preserve existing forests and prevent deforestation and land degradation; and
- (f) the funds allocated and utilized for afforestation and reforestation efforts in the country during the last three years?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (f) : A statement is laid on the table of the House

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARA (a) TO (f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No. 190 DUE FOR REPLY ON 05.08.2024 REGARDING PROMOTION OF AFFORESTATION AND REFORESTATION RAISED BY SHRI YOGENDER CHADOLIA, HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

(a) As per the National Forest Policy (NFP) 1988, the national goal is to have a minimum of one third of the total land area under forest or tree cover.

(b) & (c) In consonance with NFP, 1988, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has been taking several initiatives for promoting forestry in the country. The afforestation and tree plantation activities are undertaken by the States and Union Territories under various schemes and programmes. The Ministry provides financial assistance to States and Union Territories under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes. The details of the schemes launched by the Ministry to encourage individuals, communities and organizations to plant trees and promote greenery are, as under:

National Mission for a Green India (GIM) is one of the eight Missions outlined under the National Action Plan on Climate Change which aims at protecting, restoring and enhancing India's forest cover through Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) in the participating States/UTs.

The Nagar Van Yojana (NVY) is implemented to create forest/green spaces in urban and peri-urban areas by developing Nagar Van/Vatikas. The Nagar Van/Vatikas also help in protection of forest and concerned Government land within cities/towns or its fringes from degradation and encroachment. The scheme is being implemented through the State/UT Forest Departments and Urban Local Bodies.

The School Nursery Yojana (SNY) is being implemented to enable students to understand and appreciate the significance of plants in maintaining and sustaining the natural eco-system. The scheme is implemented in public and private schools recognized by State Boards /Central Government Boards.

The funds under Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) are utilized for compensating the loss of forest and ecosystem services due to diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes as per the provision of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.

In addition the Ministry on various occasions like International Day of Forests, World Environment Day, Van Mahotsav, Wildlife Week, etc. promotes mass tree plantation and disseminates knowledge about tree plantation and conservation of forests among public through various conferences, Workshops, Brochures, Sign boards etc.

(d) The National Forest Policy (NFP) 1988 envisages that a minimum of one third of the total land area is to be covered under forest or tree cover. As per the India State of Forest Report 2021 (ISFR) published by the Forest Survey of India, the forest cover of India during the current assessment shows a net increase of 1540 sq kms and the Tree Cover shows an increase of 721 sq km over the previous assessment of 2019.

(e) Various acts and regulations of central government such as, the Indian Forest Act, 1927; the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972; the *Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam*, 1980; Eco Sensitive Zone Notification, under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986; the Biological Diversity Act, 2002; Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ)

Notification 2019 and, other State/UT specific Acts, help to protect and preserve existing forests and prevent deforestation and land degradation.

- (f) The detail of funds allocated by the Ministry under various schemes and utilized for afforestation activities in the country during the last three years is given at **Annexure-I**.

Annexure-I

Annexure referred to in reply of part (f) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 190 regarding Promotion of Afforestation and Reforestation raised by Shri Yogender Chandolia due for reply on 05.08.2024.

Details of funds allocated under various schemes in the last three years.

(Rs. in Crores)

Scheme	2021-22		2022-23		2023-24	
	Funds allocated	Funds utilized	Funds allocated	Funds utilized	Funds allocated	Funds utilized
Green India Mission (GIM)*	156.46	138.79	137.29	178.79	112.28	64.12
Nagar Van Yojana (NVY)	159.69	112.40	134.13	93.89	120.50	93.39
School Nursery Yojana (SNY)	2.24	1.56	4.39	3.07	-	-
Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA)	9161.15	5896.31	8481.34	6149.85	7293.23	5205.12
Eco Development Task Forces Scheme	110.00	110.00	80.00	80.00	64.34	64.34

**Fund utilized also included the expenditure incurred from the release prior to FY 2019-20*