

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4370  
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2000  
ECOLOGICAL IMBALANCE DUE TO SUPER CYCLONE IN ORISSA IN 1999  
JAGANNATH MALLICK

**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether many districts of Orissa on the coastline have been rendered treeless by the super cyclone of rare severity of 1999 causing serious ecological imbalance in the State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ; and
- (c) the steps the Government have taken or proposed to be taken to maintain the ecological balance disturbed ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI)

(a) & (b) As per Report of the Central Team on assessment of damages due to cyclone of 1999 in Orissa, extensive damage to Forests, wildlife & Environment had been caused in the Super Cyclone of 29th October , 1999 and the Cyclone of 17th October, 1999. An estimated 90 million trees from the coastal shelter belt plantations, reserve forest blocks, village Woodlot plantations, roadside avenues, private and government lands and village common lands, city plantations, research garden and zoological parks and sanctuaries had been uprooted or damaged.; About 95,750 hectares of forest area comprising sal, teak and bamboo forests, village woodlot plantations, mangrove forests and coastal wind-brake plantations have been affected, besides loss of tree cover from the cities and vast rural areas, including about 1500 kms on roadsides.

(c) The steps taken by the Government to maintain ecological balance in the cyclone hit districts of Orissa by allocating grants to the State Government of Orissa under different schemes of this Ministry is given in the Annexure.

**ANNEXURE - I**

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN RESPECT OF PARTS (c) OF LOK SABHA QUESTION NO. 4370 FOR REPLY ON 21-08-2000.

**(1) Integrated Afforestation & Eco-Development Scheme (IAEPS)**

After the super cyclone of Orissa, the State Government of Orissa submitted eight project proposals which have been sanctioned during 1999-2000 under Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Project Scheme (IAEPS) for 9th Plan period at a total cost of Rs.1249.10 lakhs to treat 19500 ha. of degraded forest lands in Cyclone-hit districts of Orissa. The details of the projects are given as under :-

(Area in hectares and Amount in Rupees)

Districts    Total area    Total cost

Cuttack	2800	196.61
Jajpur	1400	117.94
Mayurbhanj, Balasore & Bhadrak	2000	96.00
Mayurbhanj	2000	96.00
Cuttack & Jajpur	3300	206.49
Keonjhar	2800	134.40
Ganjam	3000	214.28
Khurda	2200	187.38

Total    19500    1249.10

The State Government of Orissa also submitted project proposals for coastal shelterbelt plantations in the coastal districts of Orissa. These six project proposals have been sanctioned during 2000-2001 for Coastal Shelterbelt Plantations under Integrated Afforestation and Eco- Development Project Scheme (IAEPS) for 9th Plan period at a total cost of Rs. 1488.51 lakhs to treat 8000 ha. of coastal areas of Orissa. The details of the projects are given as under :-

(Area in hectares and Amount in Rupees lakhs)

Districts	Total area	Total cost
Bhadrak	100	18.40
Balasore	400	73.58
Ganjam	500	91.97
Kendrapara	2500	463.89
Puri	2500	466.82
Jagatsinghpur	2000	373.85
<b>Total</b>	<b>8000</b>	<b>1488.51</b>

## (2) Conservation and Management of Mangroves and Coral Reefs Scheme.

Bhitarkanika and Mahanadi Delta have been identified for intensive conservation and management of mangroves and coral reefs. On the recommendation of the task force constituted by this Ministry to assess the damage caused to mangroves in coastal Orissa, the following three additional areas have been identified. These are Subarnarekha, Devi and Dhamra Mangroves. The main activities include survey and demarcation, regeneration and afforestation of mangroves in the degraded areas, protection measures, ecodevelopment activities, education and awareness related to conservation of mangroves and catalytic support for establishment of mangrove genetic resource centre and mangrove interpretation centre in Bhitarkanika.

During 1999-2000, an amount of Rs.44.06 lakhs was released to the State Government for implementation of Management Action Plans in the following identified mangrove areas :-

Bhitarkanika - Rs.17.56 lakhs  
Mahanadi - Rs.26.50 lakhs

During the current financial year an amount of Rs.55.75 lakhs has been released to the State Government for implementation of Management Action Plans in the following identified mangrove areas :-

Subarnarekha - Rs.23.50 lakhs  
Devi - Rs.17.25 lakhs  
Dhamra - Rs.15.00 lakhs

## (3) Assistance through Central Zoo Authority (CZA) -

For reconstruction of Nandankanan Zoological Park, Bhubaneswar which was damaged due to super cyclone, the CZA has released Rs.60.00 lakhs in 1999-2000 and Rs.40.00 lakhs in the current financial year.

(4) Assistance for Fire Protection

An amount of Rs.98.00 lakhs has been sanctioned during 1999-2000 for salvaging the timber from the cyclone affected trees.

(5) Assistance of Grants from Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development.

There is no specific plantation programme under implementation, however an Integrated Wasteland Development Project Scheme (IWDP) is being implemented for development of non-forest wastelands on watershed basis. Under this scheme, an amount of Rs.1407.00 lakhs were released to the State of Orissa during the last three years. Out of this, Rs.335.83 have been released in the super-cyclone affected districts of Dhenkanal, Mayurbhanj and Jajpur during the financial year 1999- 2000.