

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:404
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2002
AFFORESTATION
A. VENKATESH NAIK

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

- (a) whether many State Governments have not achieved the targets fixed for afforestation during the Ninth Five Year Plan;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the percentage of decline in afforestation rate during Ninth Five Year Plan;
- (d) the targets fixed for afforestation during the Tenth Five Year Plan.
- (e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to achieve the targets within the stipulated time.

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 404 TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.08.2002

- a) There have been some shortfalls in this regard.
- b) The shortfall in the achievement of targets was largely due to inadequacy of funds in the State Forestry Sector.
- c) As per the Forest Survey of India Report 1999 there is a net increase in the forest cover of 3896 Sq. Kms. over the previous assessment in 1997.
- d) The targets for afforestation and tree planting are fixed annually for States and Union Territories. The physical targets fixed for 2002-2003 is 1.5 million hectares.
- e) The States and Union Territories have been advised to ensure adequate provision of funds in the Forestry Sector.