

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1885  
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2008  
FOREST COVER IN ELEVENTH PLAN  
Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari;Nayak Shri Ananta

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to increase the forest cover in the country, during the Eleventh Plan;
- (b) if so, the details of the target set therefor, State-wise; and
- (c) the efforts made by the Government to increase the forest cover in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI S. REGUPATHY)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir.It has been mooted to increase the Forest and Tree Cover of the country by 5 percentage points. No State-wise target has been fixed by the Government.

(c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing a number of schemes,including the National Afforestation Programme scheme and the Grants-in-Aid for Greening India scheme, which contribute to increase in forest and tree cover in the country.The Ministry has also mooted Gram Van Yojana scheme for afforestation of non-forest lands involving Panchayati Raj Institutions during the Eleventh Five Year Plan. Besides, tree planting is one of the permissible activity in the schemes of other Ministries including Integrated Watershed Management Programme,National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, National Bamboo Mission, etc.