

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2148
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2010
INCREASE IN FOREST COVER
Patil Shri A.T. Nana

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

- (a) whether the Government is contemplating to formulate any scheme to increase forest cover in the northern States and to bring uniformity in the forest cover;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has received any proposals from the State Governments for increasing their forest cover;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of the assistance provided by the Government to the States for increasing forest cover, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

- (a) & (b) No specific scheme is proposed to be formulated by the Ministry of Environment and Forests to increase forest cover in the northern states. However, the following two major afforestation and eco-restoration schemes of the Government of India can contribute to increasing the forest and tree cover of the country including the northern states:
- (i) National Afforestation Programme (NAP)
 - (ii) Additional Central Assistance for Accelerated Programme of Restoration and Regeneration of Forest Cover
- (c), (d) & (e) The up-to-date state-wise details of financial assistance provided under the NAP Scheme are given in Annexure. No funds have been released so far under "Additional Central Assistance for Accelerated Programme of Restoration and Regeneration of Forest Cover" scheme.