

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2172
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2010
AFFORESTATION UNDER MGNREGA
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to undertake afforestation programme in the entire country under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme for increasing green cover in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

Answer

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

(a), (b) & (c) The permissible activities under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), as laid down in schedule 1 of the Act, include inter alia drought proofing works such as afforestation and tree plantation. Further, to strengthen dovetailing of afforestation schemes with the MGNREGA, convergence guidelines have been issued by the Ministries of Rural Development and Environment and Forests

The State-wise details of the drought proofing (including afforestation and tree plantation) and land development (including plantation, land leveling etc.) works taken up under MGNREGA during 2007-08 to 2009-10 (upto January 2010) are given in Annexure.