

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:156
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2010
AFFORESTATION PROGRAMMES
Dhanaplan Shri K. P.;Viswanathan Shri P.

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

- (a) the extent of forest cover in the country at the end of 2000 and 2009 in each State/Union Territory;
- (b) whether the afforestation programmes being implemented during the above period have not been brought the desired results;
- (c) if so, the corrective measures taken / proposed to be taken to effectively implement afforestation programmes;
- (d) whether the States are given Carbon Credit points for increasing forest cover; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

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

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 156 by Shri P. Viswanathan and Shri K. P. Dhanapalan due for reply on 04.08.2010.

(a) Forest cover of the States / UTs as per 'State of Forest Report 2001' and 'India State of Forest Report 2009' published by Forest Survey of India is given in Annexure - I.

(b) No, Sir. Due to afforestation programme implemented during the period from 2000 to 2009, there has actually been a net increase in forest cover of the country over the last decade. The details are given in Annexure - II.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d)& (e) There is no automatic mechanism whereby States can get carbon credits for increasing forest cover. Carbon credits are earned by Project Proponents or any entity that develop Afforestation & Reforestation projects as per Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) Modalities and Procedures and are registered by the CDM Executive Board of the United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).