

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3805
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2010
GREEN COVER IN NCT OF DELHI
Gangaram Shri Awale Jaywant

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government/civic agencies in the NCT of Delhi have carried out any census of the trees in the city;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the present figures in this regard;
- (c) whether any survey of the health of such trees has been made by the civic agencies/Forest Institute of India, Dehradun;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether any steps have been taken to protect the health of such trees including procurement of a tree ambulance to treat affected/diseased trees; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the allocations made in this regard during each of the last three years and the current year?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) & (b): The New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) had carried out tree census in its jurisdiction in 2005-06, as per which there were approximately 96,000 trees in various age groups in the NDMC area. However, no such census has been conducted by the Department of Forests and Wildlife of the Government of NCT of Delhi, Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) and the Delhi Cantonment Board (DCB).

(c) & (d): No such survey has been made by the Department of Forests and Wildlife of the Government of NCT of Delhi, the MCD and the DCB. However, the Forest Research Institute, Dehradun carried out the survey of health of trees on around 48 roads and Central Vista in the NDMC area. A total of 6288 trees were inspected out of which, 5507 trees were found healthy, 435 trees dead or decayed, 86 trees deformed, 221 trees deceased and physical injury on 145 trees. Out of these, 196 trees were recommended for removal/treatment.

(e) & (f): A number of steps have been taken by the civic agencies to protect the health of trees in their areas. The steps taken by the NDMC include maintaining the area around trees as green soft space to provide aeration and moisture to trees; support to young saplings and trees through tree guards, watering, appropriate pruning and manuring; routine inspection of trees by Plant Protection Cell for any fungal, insect, pest and termite infestation; training of field staff through Forest Research Institute, Dehradun and IARI, New Delhi; introduction of a tree ambulance to take care of tree maintenance requirements, including health of trees; provision of a tree washer for washing of trees; etc. The steps taken by the MCD include leaving sufficient uncemented space around the trees to allow water to percolate in the root zone of trees; removal of diseased branches; application of anti-termite pesticides; filling up the hollow in the stem by cement for giving it a longer life, etc. The DCB also takes necessary steps to protect the health of affected/diseased trees. However, MCD and DCB have not procured any tree ambulance. No specific allocations in this regard have been made in the MCD and the DCB. The MCD carries out the above-mentioned works as maintenance of horticulture work. In the NDMC also no separate provision is made in this regard. However, its Horticulture Department, which carries out such activities within its allotted budget under maintenance of Parks and Gardens had the budget allocation during the last three years as follows:

Amount in lakh rupees

Year	Budget	Expenditure
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2007-08	275.00	259.54
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2008-09	275.00	244.29
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2009-2010 475.00 351.80