

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3666  
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2010  
ENVIRONMENTAL STABILITY  
Singh Shri Dushyant;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

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

- (a) Whether rehabilitation of degraded forests, increase in the productivity and enhancing the contribution of forests towards poverty alleviation of people living in and around forests, are some of the key areas, haunting the country;
- (b) If so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (c) The steps taken by the Government to provide environmental stability and ecological balance for the sustenance of all forms human, animal and plants?

**Answer**

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

(a)To (c) Yes, Sir. Various steps taken by the Central and State Governments under plan and non plan schemes to initiate actions, leading to ecological security and provide environmental stability as well as ecological balance for sustenance of all life forms – human, animal and plants, are as under:

- (i) Creation of Protected Area Network, Biosphere Reserves, Conservation Reserves.
- (ii) Involvement of local communities through JFMCs/EDCs for protection and regeneration of forests.
- (iii) National Green Indian Mission has been formulated as one of the eight National Missions under National Action Plan on Climate change. The main objective of the mission is to regenerate degraded forests through community participation and also to increase the forest cover of the country.
- (iv) Legal measures to protect the forest and environment i.e. forest and environmental laws.
- (v) Financial measures such as providing assistance to states and UTs under Centrally Sponsored Schemes and Externally Aided Projects. Major Afforestation activities are taken up under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme National Afforestation Programme (NAP).
- (vi) The 13th Finance Commission has recommended an amount of Rs. 5,000 crore as Forest Grant to be given to states as an incentive for maintaining Forest Cover.