

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3546
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2009
EMPLOYMENT GENERATION
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

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

- (a) whether the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has recently projected that 10 million new green jobs could be created by investing in sustainable forest management;
- (b) if so, whether Government proposes to conduct any study to assess the employment generation potential through sustained forest development in the Indian context in the light of FAO projection;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the various steps taken for encouraging sustainable forest development during the last three years?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

- (a): No, Sir. No such information is available with the Government.
- (b): No, Sir. There is no such proposal under consideration at present.
- (c): Does not arise in view of above.
- (d): A Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) Cell has been constituted in the Ministry of Environment and Forests to act as a Nodal body for policy matters at the Central Level. All States have been requested to create similar SFM Cells at the State level to be headed by the Officer dealing with the Working Plan in the respective State / UTs Forest Departments. Following the development of Criteria & Indicators as a tool for the achievement of SFM objectives at the International level, the Ministry has also developed 8 Criteria & 37 Indicators for SFM at the national level. These Criteria & Indicators would be suitably incorporated in the National Working Plan Code after pilot testing in various states in the country. All forestry schemes financed by the Ministry are based on the principles of Sustainable Management of Forests.