

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1251
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2011
CONSERVATION OF FORESTS
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Forest Survey of India has evaluated the increase in the forest cover after the implementation of the National Afforestation Programme (NAP) in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the survival rates of the plantation under this programme and the details of the bio-geographic region in the country having the highest and lowest survival rates, State-wise;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to facilitate transfer of knowledge and training regarding healthy afforestation practices amongst States;
- (d) whether any of the States in the country has made a request to enhance funds for conservation of forest; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount of foreign assistance received and utilised for conservation of forests during the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

- (a) Yes, Sir. The Forest Survey of India has been regularly carrying out forest cover assessment of the whole country biennially since 1987. This includes the period of implementation of the National Afforestation Programme (NAP) in the country since 2001.
- (b) The survival rates of plantation under this programme is assessed State wise and not as per biogeographic regions in the country. The detailed information regarding highest and lowest survival rates of the plantation State wise is enclosed as Annexure I(a), I(b), I(c) and I(d).
- (c) Capacity Building Programmes under various schemes of Ministry of Environment and Forests are conducted through National Level and State Level training institutes for various forestry themes including afforestation practices.
- (d)&(e) To meet the increasing requirement of the funds for conservation of forests, State Governments are seeking foreign assistance. Presently, 11 State Sector projects with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) funding are under implementation by the State Governments with an outlay of approximately Rs. 6400 crores, having varying project duration of 5-8 years. Under these externally aided projects, the State Governments are claiming the reimbursement of actual expenditure through the Ministry of Finance, Government of India.