

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1850
ANSWERED ON:26.03.2012
PROMOTION OF AFFORESTATION
Kateel Shri Nalin Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Government has introduced a new scheme named 'Farm Forest' to promote afforestation in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to ensure active involvement of farmers in the said scheme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) to (e) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has not introduced any new scheme named 'Farm Forest'. However, the National Mission for Green India is a new programme by the Ministry of Environment and Forests which aims to increase forest and tree cover on 5 million ha area and to improve quality of forest cover on another 5 million ha, out of which about 2.3 million ha. is envisaged for Agro-Forestry in non-productive agricultural lands involving the farmers. The mission is to be implemented over 10 years from 2012-13 and the year 2011 -12 being the preparatory year do not include the plantation activities.

Afforestation on farm lands is also done through schemes of other Ministries viz. National Bamboo Mission, National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA), Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Project & Flood Prone River (RVP&FPR), Reclamation and Development of Alkali & Acid Soils (RADAS) and Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA) sponsored by the Ministry of Agriculture. Tree planting on private land is also taken up under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development.