

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:700

ANSWERED ON:19.03.2012

FUNCTIONING OF AFFORESTATION PROJECTS

Sainuji Shri Kowase Marotrao

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

- (a) whether a number of afforestation projects are in progress with the assistance of foreign banks in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the increase in forest area in square kilometre during the last three years as on date, state-wise?

**Answer**

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

(a)&(b) Yes, Sir. At present twelve State sector forestry projects with an investment of Rs6859 Crores are implemented in Eleven States and another Project under Central Sector titled 'Capacity Development for Forest Management and Training of Personnel' with an outlay of Rs. 225 Crores is implemented in various States in the country. All these projects are funded by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Govt. of Japan. The details are given at Annexure-I.

(c) There is no separate assessment of change in Forest cover for externally aided projects. The forest cover is assessed on biennial basis for the country by Forest Survey of India by interpretation of satellite imageries and FSI publishes a report titled India State of Forest Report (ISFR) for forest and tree cover assessment. As per the latest ISFR 2011, the forest cover has declined by 367 sqkms as compared to ISFR 2009. The details of forest cover State-wise is given in Annexure II.