

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:805
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2012
FUNDS FOR CONSERVATION OF FORESTS
Pathak Shri Harin

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

- (a) the total amount sanctioned, released and utilized for development/ conservation of forests in the country during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) the steps being taken by the Government to activate afforestation activities in the country especially in the States of Gujarat and Maharashtra;
- (c) the details of aberration made by each State in the enforcement of Supreme Court directives on the forest conservation in the said area; and
- (d) the specific eco-development protection plans have been launched by the Government for implementation in terms of national and international conventions with special reference to Gujarat and Maharashtra States in the country?

Answer

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

- (a) The Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing three major Centrally Sponsored Schemes viz National Afforestation Programme (NAP) for eco-restoration of degraded forests and adjoining areas in the country, Intensification of Forest Management Scheme (IFMS) for the protection and conservation of forests and Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats Scheme which aims at management/ development of National parks & Sanctuaries and Eco-development of villages located in the periphery thereof. The details of amount sanctioned and funds released under the NAP, IFMS and Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats Scheme during last three years (2008-09 to 2010-11) and current year are given in Annexure-I, II & III respectively.
- (b) Besides National Afforestation Programme (NAP) being implemented by Ministry of Environment and Forests for afforestation of degraded areas, plantation work to increase the forest cover in the country including the states of Gujarat and Maharashtra, is also being carried out by other Ministries under schemes like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGS), Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), National Bamboo Mission etc.
- (c) Various land mark directives and decisions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the matters pertaining to the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 are generally referred to the State/ Union territory Governments for appropriate compliance. Further, in case of violations reported in the implementation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, appropriate action as per the provisions of law are taken at their level.
- (d) The Eco-development of the villages is taken up under Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats Scheme in the country including the states of Gujarat and Maharashtra. No specific Eco-development protection plan under any National / International Convention presently exists in the country.