

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3948  
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2012  
DEVELOPMENT OF FORESTS  
Gowda Shri D.B. Chandre

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

- (a) whether the Government has recently reviewed the National Afforestation Programme for the revival and regeneration of depleting forest cover in the country;
- (b) if so, the outcome of the review and the shortcomings identified by the Government in the implementation of the Programme, State-wise including Karnataka;
- (c) the total forest area revived and regenerated State-wise since the commencement of this Programme till date and the amount of funds spent in this regard so far , state-wise; and
- (d) the details of the revised strategies prepared by the Government for the conservation, management and development of forests in the country?

**Answer**

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

- (a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Environment and Forests reviewed the National Afforestation Programme (NAP) guidelines based on the feedback from the implementing States and other stakeholders, as well as mid-term evaluation of the programme.
- (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Environment and Forests reviewed the National Afforestation Programme (NAP) guidelines based on the feedback from the implementing States and other stakeholders, as well as mid-term evaluation of the programme. The review brought out the need to further strengthen the scheme addressing the certain constraints. It was considered desirable to inter-alia further decentralize and modify the institutional arrangement, streamline the fund flow, and add two new components with a view to enhance the delivery of the programme. Accordingly the State Forest Development Agency (SFDA) acts as Nodal Agency of Forest Development Agencies (FDA) in the state. The new components of value addition & marketing to facilitate local livelihood and capacity building of village communities are included in the revised programme.
- (c) As on 31.03.2012, a total area of 18.86 lakhs hectare has been approved for treatment since inception of the programme. The details of state-wise funds released and area approved in the country including Karnataka under the NAP scheme since inception of programme is given in Annexure.
- (d) Some new strategies and initiatives taken by the Government for conservation, management and development of forests in the country includes the National Mission for Green India, which aims to increase forest and tree cover on 5 million ha area and to improve quality of forest cover on another 5 m ha area as well as to improve ecosystem services, forest based livelihood and enhance carbon sequestration, and a grant of Rs. 5000 crores under the 13th Finance Commission award to incentivize the states for preservation and maintenance of their forest cover.