

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1029

ANSWERED ON:04.03.2013

CONSERVATION OF FORESTS

Baitha Shri Kameshwar ;Deka Shri Ramen;Devappa Anna Shri Shetti Raju Alias;Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz;Lal Shri Kirodi ;Pandey Saroj;Patle Kamla Devi ;Ram Shri Purnmasi;Sivasami Shri C.;Tudu Shri Laxman;Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.

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

- (a) whether as per the report of Forest Survey of India, the forest cover is shrinking in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the total forest area in each state including Chhattisgarh and its percentage in the total geographical area State-wise;
- (d) whether promoting plantation has been envisaged in 'Rashtriya Harit Bharat Mission' under 'National Action Plan' on Climate Change.
- (e) if so, the other salient features of the mission and names of the States/Union Territories likely to be covered therein; and
- (f) the scheme-wise details of funds spent for afforestation/plantation purposes and the number of trees planted 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) & (b) Yes, Sir. As per India State of Forest Report 2011, 14 States / UTs have shown a decrease in forest cover to the extent of 867 square kilometers. 15 States/UTs have registered an aggregate increase of 500 square kilometers. Effectively there is a net decline of forest cover to the tune of 367 square kilometers. The names of States/UT showing decline in forest cover along with the reasons for decline is given in Annexure I.

(c) The details of forest cover of each state including Chhattisgarh and forest cover as percentage of the total geographical area State-wise are given in Annexure II.

(d) & (e) Yes, Sir. The National Mission for 'A Green India' is one of the eight Missions under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC). The Green India Mission aims to increase forest and tree cover on 5 million hectare area and to improve quality of forest cover on another 5 million hectare area, environmental amelioration through climate mitigation, forest based livelihood of local communities and also to improve ecosystem services such as carbon sequestration, biodiversity and hydrological services. Plantation activities have been envisaged in the Mission through various Sub Missions. The Green India Mission is proposed to be implemented in all the States & UTs of the country.

(f) The Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Afforestation Programme (NAP) Scheme for eco-restoration of degraded forests and adjoining areas in the country. The scheme is being implemented through a decentralized mechanism of State Forest Development Agency (SFDA) at State level, Forest Development Agency (FDA) at Forest Division level and Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at village level. The details of funds released and approved area under the NAP scheme during last three years (2009-10 to 2011-12) and Current year (As on 25/2/2013) are given in Annexure- III.