

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2018
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2013
LAND COVERED UNDER ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large area of land has been covered under environmental protection and afforestation in Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the quantum of funds spent on the same by the Government;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to meet at least 50 per cent of the expenditure incurred by the State of Maharashtra on afforestation; and
- (d) if so, the details of the funds provided to the State Government of Maharashtra during the last three years under different schemes?

Answer

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

(a) and (b) As per the information provided by the State Forest Department of Maharashtra, about 1.55 lakh ha area has been covered under afforestation in the State during the last three years, (2010-11 to 2012-13) incurring an investment of Rs. 266.72 crores under various State Plan/Non-Plan and Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing National Afforestation Programme (NAP) which is a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme for tree plantation and eco-restoration of degraded forests and adjoining areas of the country through people's participation. An amount of Rs 73.55 crores has been released to Maharashtra under NAP to treat an area of 16539 hectares during the last three years. In addition, MoEF has also initiated the National Mission for Green India (GIM) on landscape approach with people's participation. An amount of Rs 4.06 crores has been released to Maharashtra under GIM for addressing preparatory activities in two identified landscapes during 2011-12.

Ministry also provides funds for environment protection and afforestation under Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA), 13th Finance Commission and centrally sponsored Intensification of Forest Management Scheme (IFMS). The details of funds provided to the State Government of Maharashtra during the last three years under different schemes of the Ministry has been provided in the Annexure.