

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2029
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2013
PRODUCTION OF FODDER IN FOREST AREAS
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme for producing fodder in forest areas so as to increase fodder availability in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing the National Afforestation Programme (NAP) scheme which is a 100% centrally sponsored scheme for eco-restoration of degraded forests in the country through people's participation. The scheme is implemented through the State Forest Development Agency (SFDA) at the state level, Forest Development Agency (FDA) at the forest division level and the Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at the village level. The scheme provides various models for eco-restoration, one of them being Pasture Development/Silvipasture which aims at increasing the fodder availability. During the last three years an amount of Rs.56.78 crores has been sanctioned for pasture development under NAP which includes 26,846 hectares of the new area.

Further, the National Mission for a Green India is a new initiative by the Ministry under the National Action Plan on Climate Change that aims to increase forest & tree cover on 5 million ha area, improve quality of forest cover on another 5 million ha area, ameliorate forest based livelihood of local communities and also to improve ecosystem services such as carbon sequestration, biodiversity & hydrological services. The Green India Mission envisages landscape approach and will be implemented by Gram Sabhas / Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) with bottom up participatory mechanism through convergence with other cross sectoral programmes. The mission is proposed to be implemented during the 12th and 13th five year plans which inter alia provides for Restoration of Grasslands in 0.4 million hectares.