

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:479
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2013
BOOST IN PRODUCTION OF FOREST PRODUCE
Pandey Saroj

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

- (a) whether the Government has prepared any action plan for boosting production of forest produce in newly carved States like Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand where large areas of land are under forest cover and for developing the system of storage / distribution of forest produce there;
- (b) if so, the funds allocated to each of these States under the said scheme during the last three years and the current year ;
- (c) if not, whether the Government proposes to prepare any such action plan so that economic development of tribals living in these areas can take place ; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) The Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing the National Afforestation Programme (NAP) scheme which is a 100% centrally sponsored scheme with the objective of rehabilitation of degraded forests and adjoining areas by institutionalizing decentralized/participatory forest management. Afforestation under NAP is carried out through the plantation models of Aided Natural Regeneration, Artificial Regeneration, Pasture Development/Silvipasture, Bamboo plantation, Plantation of Canes, Mixed Plantations of trees having MFP and medicinal Value, Regeneration of perennial herbs and shrubs of medicinal Value which aid in boosting the production of forest produce in the country. The beneficiaries are members of JFM Committees including tribals and others living in and around forests. The state wise details of the funds released during the last three years and the current year including Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand under NAP is given in the Annexure.

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has approved on 01.08.2013, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of "Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Development of value Chain for MFP". To start with, the Scheme covers eight States namely, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Rajasthan and Gujarat for 12 MFP namely,

- (i) Tendu,
- (ii) Bamboo
- (
- (iii) Mahuwa Seed

(iv) Sal Leaf

(v) Sal Seed

(vi) Lac,

(vii) Chironjee,

(viii) Wild Honey

(ix) Myrobalan (x) Tamarind

(xi) Gums (Gum Karaya) and

(xii) Karanj. The Scheme seeks to establish a system to ensure fair monetary returns for the MFP collected by the STs and other forest dwelling communities by fixing Minimum Support Price.

It also supports primary value-addition of MFP, provides for supply chain infrastructure like cold storage, warehouses etc. and emphasizes on scientific harvesting of MFP etc.