

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2186

ANSWERED ON:10.03.2015

PLANTATION ACTIVITIES

Adsul Shri Anandrao ;Patil Shri Shivaji Adhalrao;Shrirang Shri Chandu Barne;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

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

- (a) whether the Government has involved the private sector for afforestation activities to achieve the target of 33% forest cover:
- (b) if so, whether the State Governments have agreed to provide public barren land to the private sector;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the area of forest land covered by the private sector;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefore: and
- (e) the measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) to (e) National Forest Policy,1988 provides for the national goal of 33% of the country's geographical area under forest and tree cover for maintaining ecological balance and environmental security of the country. As per the India State of Forest Report, 2013, the country's forest and tree cover is 24.01% of geographical area. For achieving the remaining goal of around 9%, afforestation and tree planting is required on barren and other lands available for this purpose. Private sector is not involved in plantation activities on forest land, however, private sector is involved in plantation activities through Agroforestry and Farm Forestry on agriculture and other private lands. The Ministry has also issued guidelines to the State and UT Governments for liberalizing regulatory regime for felling and transit of trees grown on private lands to encourage private efforts.