

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5679
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2015
AFFORESTATION PROGRAMMES
Joshi Shri Chandra Prakash

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

- (a) whether the Government has fixed any target for afforestation under the various Environmental Protection Schemes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the total land area earmarked for afforestation in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the total land area brought under afforestation during each of the last two years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has fixed any target for making the country pollution free; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a), (b) & (c) Afforestation/Tree plantation targets are fixed by Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) annually to States/UTs under 20 Point Programme. The details of afforestation targets and achievements by the States during the last two years are given in Annexure. Afforestation in the country is taken up cross sectorally under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes /grants such as National Afforestation Programme (NAP), Green India Mission (GIM), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), National Bamboo Mission, Finance Commission Grants, Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) and also under different State Plan/Non Plan Schemes including externally aided projects.

(d) & (e) The Government has fixed the following Monitorable Targets for controlling the pollution in the country :

i. Assess and remediate 12 identified contaminated sites (hazardous chemicals and wastes) with potential for ground water contamination by 2017.

ii. Clean 80 per cent of critically polluted stretches in rivers by 2017 AND 100 percent by 2020.

iii. Meeting of National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) by the States in urban areas by 2017.

iv. Reduction in emission intensity of National Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in line with the target of 20-25 percent reduction over 2005 levels by 2020.

The government has formulated sector specific long term as well as short term action plans to achieve the targets for mitigating pollution.