

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6270
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2015
AGRO FORESTRY
Patil Shri Sanjay(Kaka) Ramchandra

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

- (a) whether the National Agro Forestry Policy, 2014 has been approved by the Government;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the said policy; and
- (c) the likely benefits in the areas of forest conservation and to the farming community?

Answer

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

(a) The National Agro Forestry Policy, 2014 has been approved by the Government.

(b) The salient features of the Policy includes encouraging and expanding tree plantation in complementary and integrated manner with crops and livestock to improve productivity, employment, income and livelihoods of rural households, especially the small holder farmers. The Policy envisages stabilization of ecosystems, complements achieving the target of increasing forest/tree cover to promote ecological stability, especially in the vulnerable regions and promotes resilient cropping and farming systems to minimize the risk during extreme climatic events. The Policy aims to meet the raw material requirements of wood based industries and reduce import of wood and wood products to save foreign exchange, supplement the availability of fuel-wood, fodder, non-timber forest produce and small timber for the rural and tribal populations, thereby reducing the pressure on existing forests. The Policy seeks developing capacity and strengthening research in agroforestry and creating a massive people's movement for achieving these objectives and to minimize pressure on existing forests.

(c) Implementation of the National Agro Forestry Policy will help to increase the tree cover and availability of fuelwood, fodder, small timber, etc. This will help to reduce the biotic pressure on forests and will help in conservation. The farming community will benefit as the Policy will help in improving the productivity, employment, income and livelihood opportunities of rural households, especially of the smallholder farmers.