

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2852

ANSWERED ON:15.03.2016

Forest Management

Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

- (a) whether the Government is implementing the scheme of "Intensification of Forest Management", if so, the details and salient features of the scheme;
- (b) whether the Government is providing funds to various States for forest protection under the scheme;
- (c) if so, the total funds released to the States during each of the last two years and the current year, State-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to encourage the States to provide more funds for forest protection and bring down the pollution level in the country?

Answer

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

(a) to (b) Yes Sir. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and climate Change is implementing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) titled "Intensification of Forest Management Scheme". Under the scheme, funds are provided to State and Union Territory Governments to supplement their efforts towards protection and management of forests.

The seven components of the scheme include Forest fire control and management, Strengthening of Infrastructure, Survey, demarcation and working plan preparation, Protection and conservation of sacred groves, Conservation and restoration of unique vegetation and Ecosystems, Control and eradication of Forest Invasive Species and Preparedness for meeting the challenges of bamboo flowering and improving management of bamboo forests.

Funds under the scheme are utilized for various activities including purchase of vehicles for patrolling of the forests, establishment of camps, construction of watch towers for detection and monitoring of forest fires, creation and maintenance of fire lines, survey and demarcation of forest areas, preparation of working plans, strengthening forest infrastructure etc. From the current financial year, the funding pattern has been revised to 60%:40% (Centre:State) sharing basis for all States however, for North East & Special category States it continues to be 90%:10% (central share).

(c) to (d) The details of total funds released to the States/UTs during each of the last two years and the current year, State-wise are given in annexure-1. Protection and Management of forests is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State/UT Government hence States also undertake various forest protection activities under different Plan and Non-Plan schemes of the respective State Government.
