

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3485
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2014
PLANTATION WORK ON RAILWAY LAND
Nete Shri Ashok Mahadeorao

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways propose to lay special emphasis on the plantation programme on railway land in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the area of railway land in hectares where plantation has been done during the current year and the number of trees planted there;
- (c) whether the Railways have fixed any target of plantation programmes for this year;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Railways in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) to (e): In pursuance of Railways commitment towards environmental improvement through afforestation and also with a view to safeguard Railway land against unauthorized occupation, Railways undertake tree plantation on a programmed basis in a manner so as to not affect the visibility of track and safe operations of trains. Vacant Railway land is generally in the form of thin strips along the track. About 44000 hectares of land was under afforestation as on 31.03.2014. For the year 2014-15, a target of plantation of 75 lakhs saplings has been fixed and till October 2014, about 45 lakhs saplings have been planted on approximately 1548 hectares of Railway land.