

Forest Report 2009 (ISFR 2009), the forest cover of the country has increased by 728 square kilometer as compared to State of Forest Report, 2005. However the Ministry of Environment & Forests has been extending financial assistance to States and Union Territories for afforestation with the aim to enhance forest cover under various schemes of National Afforestation & Eco-Development Board.

#### **Setting up of National Bureau of Forest Genetics**

1091. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to set up National Bureau of Forest Genetics under the Indian Council of Forest Research and Education to protect country's diminishing forest resources; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Proposal to set up a National Bureau of Forest Genetics Resources is in conceptual stage. However, Indian Council of Forest Research and Education has proposed an institutional initiative for Forest Genetic Resources Management network which *inter-alia* envisages seven components, corpus viz., for institutionalization of network at Dehradun and Coimbatore including improvement of infrastructure, furnishing of laboratories, establishment of a seed centre and a field research station.

#### **Kyoto summit *vis-a-vis* green technology**

1092. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether out of 15 European nations represented at the Kyoto Summit on carbon emissions, 10 have still not met the targets agreed there and with the US never ratifying the agreement, the world is likely to achieve barely 5 per cent of the promised Kyoto reduction;

(b) whether the country should invest in green technology that offers cheaper alternatives to fossils fuel based ones as emission reduction technology is expensive; and

(c) whether the country should initiate a move to negotiate an agreement to increase radically spending on green-energy research and development to a total of 0.2 per cent of global GDP or \$ 100 billion a year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) As per Kyoto Protocol, Annex-I Parties agreed to reduce their overall emissions by at least 5% below their 1990 levels by the end of first commitment period i.e. 2012. The