

Green India mission document

1530. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether in a move to meet the challenge of climate change, Government has come out with a mission document aiming to increase the forest cover, which can serve as 'carbon sinks' for removing greenhouse gases;
- (b) if so, whether the draft Green India mission document has since been prepared;
- (c) if so, the salient features of the draft document; and
- (d) to what extent does the mission aim to check the increase of Greenhouse gases by increasing the restoring the forest cover in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Madam. Under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) announced by the Government of India, the "National Mission for a Green India" has been mooted as one of the eight missions. The mission document is under formulation.

(b) to (d) The draft Green Indian Mission has been prepared in May 2010 and uploaded on the Ministry's website for feedback from all the stakeholders. Seven regional consultations were also held in Guwahati, Pune, Dehradun, Visakhapatnam, Bhopal, Jaipur and Mysore during June and July, 2010 with different stakeholders including NGOs, civil society organizations, Government officials, experts, researchers and other concerned citizens. Based on the feedback received, the Mission document is being finalized. The salient features of the draft Green India Mission document which was put up for consultations are:

- (a) Double the area taken up for afforestation/eco restoration in India in the next 10 years.
- (b) Increase the Green House Gases removals by India's forests to 6.35% of India's total Green House Gases emissions by the year 2010 and
- (c) Enhance the resilience of forests/ecosystems being treated under the mission.