

Forest Report, 2011, the fuelwood and feed for livestock (fodder collection and grazing) are the main products from forests.

(b) to (d) The National Mission for Green India is a new programme by the Ministry of Environment & Forests which aims to increase forest and tree cover on 5 million ha area and to improve quality of forest cover on another 5 million ha area as well as to improve ecosystem services, forest based livelihood and enhance carbon sequestration. The Green India Mission also envisages improving carbon efficiency and promoting alternative energy devices such as biogas, solar devices, biomass based energy and expansion of services for cleaner cooking fuels like LPG in rural areas; improved fuel-efficient stoves etc. would help in reducing pressure on forests, gaining carbon benefits, along with health and other associated benefits. One of the objectives envisaged in the Green India Mission document is to enhance annual CO₂ sequestration by 50 to 60 million tonnes in the year 2020.

Forest cover in Goa

3438. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) the present forest cover in Goa;
- (b) the percentage of forest cover during 1960-70, 1971-80, 1981-90, 1991-2000 and 2001-2010;
- (c) the steps proposes to be taken by the State Government to increase the forest cover and the target set thereof; and
- (d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) As per India State of Forest Report, 2011, the forest cover of the State of Goa is 2219 Km² which is 59.94% of the State geographical area.

(b) The Forest cover of the country, State-wise, is assessed by Forest Survey of India since 1987. The details of forest cover of Goa as per India State of Forest Report from 1987 to 2011 is as under:-

(Area in sq. an)

Year	1987	1989	1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005	2009	2011
Area	1240	1255	1255	1250	1250	1252	1251	2095	2156	2164	2151	2219

(c) and (d) The following initiatives have been taken by the Government to expand forest and tree cover in the country:

- (i) The Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Afforestation Programme (NAP) for regeneration of degraded forests and adjoining areas in the country. The Scheme is implemented through a decentralized mechanism of State Forest Development Agency (SFDA) at State level, Forest Development Agency (FDA) at Forest Division level and Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at Village levels. As on 31.03.2012, 800 FDA projects have been approved in 28 States in the country to treat an area of 18.86 lakh hectares since inception of the Scheme in 2002.
- (ii) The Ministry release funds under the Intensification of Forest Management Scheme (IIFMS), for strengthening of forest protection such as infrastructure, fire protection, demarcation of forest boundaries, construction of facilities for frontline staff and communication which has contributed towards increase in the forest cover.
- (iii) Under the National Action Plan on Climate Change announced by the Central Government, a National Mission for a 'Green India' has been mooted in which quality to improve the degraded forests along with afforestation are major objectives.
- (iv) Under the award of 13th Finance Commission, a grant of Rs. 5000 crores has been allocated as "Forest Grants" to the states on the basis of their forest cover in the State in relation to the national average. It has been further weighted by the quality of the forests in each state as measured by density.
- (v) Afforestation activities are undertaken under various External Aided Projects by 12 States.

Notification of Critical Wildlife Habitats in Odisha

3439. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state : whether Government has approved the proposal of the State Government of Odisha to declare 15.33 km. area of Chilkanalaban sanctuary, entire Gahirmath sanctuary and Chandaka sanctuary as critical wildlife habitats?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : The Government of Odisha has forwarded proposals to the Central Level Committee for notification of Chilka Nalaban Sanctuary, Gahirmatha Sanctuary and Chandaka Sanctuary as Critical Wildlife Habitats under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of