

(b) if so, the specific steps taken by Government to augment production of eco-system services from the forests, forest-type-wise; and

(c) the estimated quantitative increase in different eco-system services over the next five years as a result of those steps?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) The ecosystem services are benefits which people derive from forests. These include provisioning services such as food, water, fodder, fuel, timber, medicinal plants; regulating services such as climate and water purification, pollination and seed dispersal; cultural services such as recreation and spiritual benefits; and supporting services such as nutrient cycling etc. These services are essential for ecological balance and environmental security of the country in addition to providing livelihood support to the people living in and around forest areas including tribals.

(b) The Government of India has taken various steps to improve and increase the forest and tree cover, which will contribute to enhanced production of ecosystem services from forests. These include schemes such as National Afforestation Programme, National Mission for Green India, Intensification of Forest Management and Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitat etc., in addition to the schemes and programmes of the States/Union Territories, creation of network of Protected Areas, adoption of community based practices such as Joint Forest Management/Van Panchayats, awareness campaigns, capacity building of stakeholders etc.

(c) Most of the Ecosystem services cannot be given a monetary connotation and countrywide assessment of ecosystem services has not been made by the Ministry.

**Recommendations made by TSR Subramanian
High Level Committee Report**

2429. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has accepted the recommendations made by the TSR Subramanian High Level Committee's Report on the amendment of key environmental laws;

(b) if so, specifications of the recommendations which have been accepted and details of the proposed framework for their implementation; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the expected time-frame for completing the review of the Report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is examining the recommendations of High Level Committee. The Ministry has not fixed any time-frame for completing the review of the Report.