

Green India Mission for pastures

†2110. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any decision to introduce Green India Mission (GIM) for construction of pastures in forest areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has issued any directions to the State Governments for using CAMPA fund lying unused in several States;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether Government has proposed to take any other steps for making available fodder on a large scale from forest areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE): (a) and (b) The Government has launched the National Mission for a Green India (GIM) with the objective of increasing the forest cover and improving the quality of forests. The GIM follows the landscape approach under which large contiguous areas in both forest and non-forest areas, public and private lands are taken up for afforestation with the involvement of local communities in planning, implementation and monitoring. Restoration of grasslands is one of the key components of GIM.

(c) and (d) Appropriate advisories are issued to State Authorities for timely utilisation of CAMPA funds. The benchmark of 70% of expenditure of past release is insisted before further releases.

(e) Government of India provides assistance to States and Union territories under the relevant components of the GIM, National Afforestation Programme, Intensification of Forest Management Scheme, Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitat Scheme, Project Tiger and Project Elephant to protect and enhance forest cover. Protection and enhancement of forest cover improves availability of forest produce and ecological services, including fodder, from forests.

Agricultural wastes management policy

2111. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that burning of agricultural waste materials in open fields is

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.