

relocation of people from sanctuaries and national parks and a voluntary relocation package amounting to ₹ 10 lakh is provided per eligible family in such instances.

Declaration of climate emergency

61. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether declaration of climate emergency is under the consideration of Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) to (c) Climate change is a global phenomenon and requires cooperation of all nations based on the principles of 'Equity' and 'Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities'. India is a Party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change " (UNFCCC), its Kyoto Protocol (KP) and the Paris Agreement (PA). The ambitious Paris Agreement has mechanisms like "global stocktake and ratcheting up action every 5 years to address climate change and avoid adverse consequences. For addressing the challenge of climate change, India adheres to the paramountcy of the UNFCCC processes. It has proactively contributed to multilateral efforts to combat climate change and continues to do so while undertaking its own independent, enhanced initiatives in climate mitigation and adaptation besides meeting all its commitments under the UNFCCC, its KP and PA. Independent studies rate India's efforts highly and compliant with the requirements under PA.

Environmental degradation due to deforestation

62. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) details of deforestation during the last three years, State-wise; and
- (b) details of afforestation programme to compensate the said problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) Deforestation is caused due to various factors which might include/overexploitation, overgrazing, urbanization and diversion for other purposes etc. The Biennial edition of India State of Forest Report (ISFR) by Forest Survey of India (FSI) of the Ministry, comprehensively, brings out the district-wise and State-wise details of forest and tree cover along with type of forest including open forest etc. This repository of data *inter alia* serves as the source to target the potential area for afforestation under various schemes.

It is a practice that whenever permission for tree felling is given, planting of 2 to 5 times more number of trees and its growth is ensured and compensatory afforestation is carried out in lieu of forest land diversion. Moreover, to compensate the problem of deforestation and to improve and increase the forest and tree cover in the country, afforestation programmes are taken up under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes of the ministry such as National Afforestation Programme (NAP) and National Mission for a Green India (GIM). The Ministry also supports school nursery and urban forestry programmes through people's participation. The fund under Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA), *inter alia*, is also used in plantation activity including compensatory afforestation. In addition plantations are also done by various departments, Non-government organizations, civil society, corporate bodies etc.

The multi departmental efforts has yielded good results in conserving environment by addressing the problem of deforestation, besides keeping the pace of development, which is evident from the fact that the forest cover has stabilized and has been constantly increasing over the years. As per ISFR 2015(updated), the forest and tree cover has increased by 4902.6 square kilometer (sq.km) over 2013 assessment while as per ISFR, 2017, the forest and tree cover has increased by 8021 sq km. of total forest and tree cover as compared to that of ISFR, 2015. The list of States/UTs where increasing forest cover has been recorded in ISFR, 2017 over 2015 assessment attached as Statement (*See below*). A study by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), USA has also stated that India and China are leading the increase in greening on land. Implementation of various afforestation measures and concerted efforts of various agencies in this regard are expected to maintain the increasing trend in forest and tree cover.

Statement

List of States/UTs where forest cover has increased as per India State of Forest Report (ISFR), 2015 and ISFR, 2017

(Area in sq. km)				
State/UT	Geographical Area	Forest Cover		Change in Forest Cover (Area)
		ISFR, 2015	ISFR, 2017	
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	162968	26006	28147	2141
Assam	78438	27538	28105	567
Bihar	94163	7254	7299	45
Delhi	1483	188.77	192.41	3.64
Goa	3702	2210	2229	19
Gujarat	196244	14710	14757	47
Haryana	44212	1580	1588	8
Himachal Pradesh	55673	14707	15100	393
Jammu and Kashmir	222236	22988	23241	253
Jharkhand	79716	23524	23553	29
Karnataka	191791	36449	37550	1101
Kerala	38852	19278	20321	1043
Manipur	22327	17083	17346	263
Odisha	155707	50460	51345	885
Punjab	50362	1771	1837	66
Rajasthan	342239	16106	16572	466
Tamil Nadu	130060	26208	26281	73
Telangana	112077	19854	20419	565
Uttar Pradesh	240928	14401	14679	278

1	2	3	4	5
Uttarakhand	53483	24272	24295	23
West Bengal	88752	16826	16847	21
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	491	206	207	1
Daman and Diu	111	19.61	20.49	0.88
Lakshadweep	30	27.06	27.1	0.04
GRAND TOTAL	3287469	383666.44	391958	8291.56

Recycling of plastic

63. PROF M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) measures being taken to create awareness amongst citizens about the importance of recycling plastic;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to promote and incentivise the recycling of plastic;
- (c) whether Government has any plans to provide fiscal incentives on the usage of recycled plastic; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) to (d) Hon'ble Prime Minister has announced India's pledge to phase out all single-use plastic by 2022. On the call of Hon'ble Prime Minister, a three-phase campaign "Swachhta Hi Sewa" (SHS) was launched from 11th Sep, 2019, which ended on Diwali *i.e.* 27th October 2019. This campaign *inter alia* focused on awareness, advocacy, collection and safe disposal of littered plastic.

Under the campaign, all stakeholders *i.e.* general public, students, industry, Governments, and local bodies came together and collected waste plastic from houses, streets, public places like parks, beaches, markets, religious and tourist places etc. Urban Local Bodies, Gram Panchayats, government organisation and others made