

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO: 145
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.03.2021

Expenditure incurred on forest cover by Government

145. SHRI A.D. SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the actual expenditure incurred by the Forests and Wildlife Ministries of Central and respective State Governments during the last three years;
- (b) the contribution of salaries and establishment costs in this and percentage of it actually spent on protecting and increasing forest cover;
- (c) the per hectare expenditure during the last three years on forest and wildlife area and the percentage of the annual State budget for this;
- (d) whether allocated budget is sufficient to protect this vital national resources; and
- (e) the steps being taken by Government to increase budgetary allocation to this sector?

ANSWER
MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) to (e) The Statement is laid on the table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO RAJYA SABHA STARRED Q. NO. 145 DUE FOR
REPLY ON 08.03.2021 REGARDING EXPENDITURE INCURRED ON FOREST
COVER BY GOVERNMENT ASKED BY SHRI A.D. SINGH**

- (a) & (b) The State Governments and Union Territory Administrations take care of conservation and maintenance of forests. The Central Government supplements their efforts by providing necessary technical support and financial assistance under various schemes implemented by the Ministry including National Afforestation Programme, Green India Mission, Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats and Forest Fire Prevention and Management Scheme. These schemes also contribute to conservation and development of forests. The expenditure by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, including the expenditure on its Attached/ Subordinate offices, Assistance to Autonomous Bodies and Statutory/ Regulatory Bodies, during last three years is given in Annexure-1. Expenditure incurred by the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations is not collated at level of this Ministry. However, the information is being collected from State/UTs and the same will be made available.

The expenditure made by this Ministry and its Subordinate Offices, Assistance to Autonomous Bodies and Statutory/ Regulatory Bodies, etc. on salaries and establishments cost also contribute and support protection and development of forest through research and development as well as through implementation of various regulations concerning forest and wildlife.

The expenditure incurred under the major Centrally Sponsored Schemes implemented by the Ministry which contributes towards conservation and development of forests is given at Annexure -2.

- (c) The expenditure incurred by the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations is not collated at the level of this Ministry. Therefore, the per hectare expenditure in forest and wildlife areas and the percentage of the annual State budget for this is not available in this Ministry. However, the information is being collected from States/UTs and the same will be made available.

- (d) & (e) Budget is allocated to the Central Government Ministries as per due deliberation in the Parliament. The Ministry takes due measures for protection and increase of forest cover within the budget allocated to it. It is further mentioned that, afforestation activities are also taken up by other Ministries under various programmes/funding sources such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana and under the schemes/plans of States and Union Territories.

Further, the XV Finance Commission has assigned 10 percent weight to forest and ecology in its horizontal devolution criteria and weights to encourage States to enhance investment on improvement of forest cover.

The multi-departmental efforts have yielded good results in conserving and developing forest and tree cover as evident from the fact that the forest and tree cover as reported in the latest India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2019 has increased by 13,209 sq km as compared to that of ISFR 2015 assessment.

Annexure-1

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 145 due for answer on 08.03.2021 regarding '**Expenditure incurred on forest cover by Government**'

Expenditure incurred by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change during last three years

(in crore)

S. No.	Year	Actual Expenditure
1	2017-18	3017.32
2	2018-19	2623.85
3	2019-20	2565.44

Annexure-2

Annexure referred to in reply to part (b) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 145 due for answer on 08.03.2021 regarding 'Expenditure incurred on forest cover by Government'

Expenditure incurred under major Centrally Sponsored Schemes of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change during last three years

(in crore)

S. No.	Year	Expenditure incurred under National Mission for Green India *	Expenditure incurred under Integrated Development of Wild Life Habitat**	Expenditure incurred under Conservation of Natural Resources and Ecosystems***
1	2017-18	161.88	527.85	91.75
2	2018-19	223.38	527.78	76.58
3	2019-20	240.48	473.21	53.84

*Sub-schemes of National Mission for a Green India are Green India Mission, National Afforestation Programme and Forest Fire prevention and Management Scheme

**Sub-schemes of Integrated Wild Life Habitat are Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitat, project Tiger and Project Elephant

***Sub-schemes of Conservation of Natural Resources and Ecosystems are Conservation of Corals & Mangroves, Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystem and Biodiversity Conservation