

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 209
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.02.2022

Review of Compensatory Afforestation Programme

209. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:
SMT. JHARNA DAS BAIDYA:

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

- (a) whether the Forest Survey of India has submitted a review of the Compensatory Afforestation Programme (CAP) to Government in January 2020 and whether this report is publicly available;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government maintains data on missing or ghost plantations, i.e., where there has been no actual plantation under the CAP despite reports on paper;
- (d) if so, the details thereof from the year 2017 till date and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) details of measures being taken to monitor ghost plantations?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a) & (b) Forest Survey of India (FSI) has not submitted review of the Compensatory Afforestation Programme to the Government of India in January 2020. However, FSI carries out analysis of geo-spatial data (polygons) of plantations being uploaded by the State Forest Departments on e-Green Watch portal for accuracy of location, area and year of plantation. The analysis of plantations is available on e-Green Watch portal (www.egreenwatch.nic.in).
- (c) to (e) As per information received from various State CAMPA Authorities, no incidences of Ghost plantations have been reported so far. Rajasthan State CAMPA Authority in response to an article “India’s Ghost plantation”, has informed the Ministry about the current status of Ladkhan and Beethnok plantations. The Ladkhan Block Compensatory Afforestation was done on 10.76 ha of degraded forest land in 2020-21 with 7540 plants and at present survival rate of plantation is more than 85%. Further, Beethnok “C” plantation mentioned in the article, was raised as silvi-pastoral plantation in the year 2017-18 under Rajasthan Forestry and Biodiversity Project (RFBP) not under CAMPA fund and the survival percentage of this plantation is 68% as on 10.01.2022. However, the Compensatory Afforestation raised for the 400 KV/DC Bhadla-Bikaner Transmission Line Project was done as Beethnok Plantation on 30.30 ha forest land in the year 2019-20, which is 10 km away from earlier mentioned

Beethnok “C” plantation site. This plantation is properly fenced, mulching successfully done and plants are in good condition as on today. A random sampling done on 14.01.2022 shows the survival percentage as 67.85%.

Plantations raised under Compensatory Afforestation are regularly monitored by State Forest Departments through internal monitoring and evaluation mechanism of the States, by FSI through analysis of geo-spatial data (polygons) uploaded on e-Green Watch Portal and also through third party monitoring by external agencies. The polygons uploaded by States/ UTs are verified after ground truthing.
