

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 3893
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.04.2023

Expansion of forest cover in Jharkhand

3893. SHRI DEEPAK PRAKASH:

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to launch a new initiative involving local level institutions and the private sector to expand forest cover in the State of Jharkhand, especially in the rural areas; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof, along with the efforts made by Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) In order to restore forest areas and enhance biodiversity, afforestation activities are undertaken by States and UTs. The Ministry provides financial assistance to States/UTs under various schemes including Green India Mission, CAMPA etc. The State Forest Departments actively involve the local institutions including Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMC) and local bodies under these afforestation programmes.

(b) The Ministry is implementing Nagar Van Yojana (NVY) since the year 2020 which envisages creation of 600 Nagar Vans and 400 Nagar Vatika in the country during the period 2020-21 to 2024-25 under the funds available under National Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAMPA). The Nagar Van Yojana aims to enhance the green cover in the urban and peri-urban areas including biological diversity, provide ecological benefits and improve the quality of life of city dwellers.

The Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAMPA fund) is being utilized by States/UTs for taking up compensatory afforestation as per approved Annual Plan of Operations for compensating the loss of forest & tree cover due to diversion of forest land for developmental projects as per provisions of Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016 (CAF Act) and CAF Rules, 2018.

Afforestation activities are also taken up under various programmes and schemes of line Ministry such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, National Bamboo Mission, Sub-Mission on Agroforestry etc. and under schemes of State Government/UT Administration through different departments, Non-Government Organizations, Civil Society, Corporate bodies etc. The multi departmental efforts have yielded good results in conserving and enhancing forest cover in the country.

As per the last three India State of Forest Reports published by Forest Survey of India, the forest cover of Jharkhand has shown increasing trend. The details of forest cover of Jharkhand from ISFR 2017 to ISFR 2021 is as below:-

Year	Forest Cover of Jharkhand (Square kilometer)
ISFR 2017	23,553
ISFR 2019	23,611
ISFR 2021	23,721
