

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1507
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.02.2026

Change in forest cover

1507. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN:

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

- (a) the State/UT-wise yearly targets and achievements under Green India Mission and Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam initiative since their launch;
- (b) whether the Ministry is aware of CAG (2024) finding that only 28.45 per cent of sapling survived in parts of Uttar Pradesh and if so, the details of action taken thereon; and
- (c) the funds released and utilised for afforestation during the last five years, State-wise/UT-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) The Green India Mission (GIM) is being implemented as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme through the State Forest Departments on the basis of Annual Plans of Operation (APOs) approved by the Ministry. The State/UT wise yearly targets and achievements under Green India Mission since its launch are given under **Annexure 1**. The Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam initiative is a people-centric, voluntary campaign intended to encourage tree plantation through public participation. The achievements i.e. number of saplings planted under Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam in last two years for 2024-25 and 2025-26 are 146.91 crores and 121.50 crores respectively.

(b) The plantation and maintenance activities are primarily the responsibility of the State Government, and survival rates are influenced by multiple factors including species-site matching, local climatic conditions, post-plantation care and protection, soil and moisture conservation, and community participation. The Ministry encourages the State Governments, including Uttar Pradesh, to further strengthen species-site matching, adopt best practices for post-plantation care and monitoring, undertake gap-filling and protection measures, and leverage technology-based monitoring tools to improve long-term survival rates. As per the India State of Forest Reports (ISFR), Uttar Pradesh has shown a significant increase in forest and tree cover. The comparison of the 2021 and 2023 reports, indicate an increase of forest cover in the State from 14,927.37 km² (6.20 % of geographical area) in 2021, to 15,045.80 km² (6.24 % of geographical area) in 2023, i.e. an increase of 118.43km². During this period tree cover rose from 8,510.16 km² (3.53 % of geographical area) to 8,950.92 sq km (3.72 % of geographical area). Thus, the overall forest and tree cover increased from 23,437.53 km² (9.73 % of geographical area) in 2021 to 23,996.72 km² (9.96 % of geographical area) in 2023, reflecting an increase of around 559 km². These improvements demonstrate enhanced survival and sustainability of plantation efforts in the State.

(c) The Ministry is undertaking afforestation and reforestation work through ongoing schemes such as National Mission for a Green India (GIM), Nagar Van Yojna (NVY), and the Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitat and Tangible Benefits (MISTHI). The State wise fund released and utilized during the last five years is given in **Annexure-2**.

Annexure 1

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of the Rajya Sabha Un-Starred Question No. 1507 due for reply on 12.02.2026 by Shri Derek O' Brien, regarding "Change in Forest Cover"

Table-1: The State/UT-wise yearly targets under Green India Mission since its launch i.e. from 2015-16 onwards:

(Area in ha)

Sl. No.	States	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	Total sanctioned afforestation targets
1	Andhra Pradesh	-	534	-	2,203	-	-	1,656	-	-	4,393
2	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,777	-	-	10,777
3	Chhattisgarh	19,128	-	-	-	-	1,063	4,419	-	-	24,610
4	Haryana	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,568	-	-	1,568
5	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	5,480	-	-	-	5,480
6	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-	-	-	2,327	-	1,891	-	4,218
7	Karnataka	760	-	-	600	-	560	515	360	-	2,795
8	Kerala	4,978	-	7,320	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,298
9	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	-	11,914	11,444	-	7,259	5,000	-	35,617
10	Maharashtra	-	-	-	6,766	-	-	-	-	-	6,766
11	Manipur	8,798	-	-	-	-	8,122	2,056	1,000	-	19,976
12	Mizoram	-	19,643	-	-	-	-	-	1,000	-	20,643
13	Odisha	2,178	21	21	6,965	7,450	-	2,108	2,030	-	20,772
14	Punjab	3,018	-	-	-	-	1,600	1,500	1,650	-	7,768
15	Sikkim	-	-	-	1,509	-	-	2,474	2,998	-	6,981
16	Uttarakhand	7,483	-	-	-	-	3,562	2,295	3,557	-	16,897
17	West Bengal	-	-	-	-	995	-	1,611	-	-	2,606
18	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,944	20,944
	Total	46,343	20,198	7,341	29,957	19,889	22,714	38,238	19,486	20,944	2,25,109

Note: Due to paucity of funds and extent of committed liabilities, no new advance work targets has been approved for the States under GIM since 2023-24 except Uttar Pradesh.

Table-2 The State/UT-wise yearly achievements under Green India Mission since its launch i.e. from 2015-16 onwards:

												(Area in ha)
Sl. No.	States	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Total achievements (creation of plantation/eco-restoration)
1	Andhra Pradesh	-	534	-	-	-	899	-	-	-	-	1,433
2	Arunachal Pradesh		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,412	902	5,314
3	Chhattisgarh	19,128	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19,128
4	Haryana	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,301	-	-	1,301
5	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	574	556	169	1,299
6	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-	-	-	-	951	115	712	-	1,778
7	Karnataka	760	-	-	600	-	560	405	397	-	-	2,722
8	Kerala	-	2,762	6,253	-	631	2,171	480	-	-	-	12,297
9	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	-	10,554	8,236	680	-	7,127	6,234	-	32,831
10	Maharashtra	-	-	-	5,223	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,223
11	Manipur	8,798		-	-	-	2,942	2,692	-	-	2,056	16,488
12	Mizoram		19,643	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19,643
13	Odisha	2,178	21	21	6,965	7,450	1,473	2,603	-	-	-	20,711
14	Punjab	-	1,286	1,732	-	-	1,100	875	1,575	600	-	7,168
15	Sikkim	-	-	-	1,509	-	-	2,474	2,584	-	-	6,567
16	Uttarakhand	-	-	-	7,483	-	-	1,706	3,297	2,350	-	14,836
17	West Bengal	-	-	-	-	-	-	995	1,611	-	-	2,606
18	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	30,864	24,246	8,006	32,335	16,317	9,825	13,181	18,581	14,864	3,127	1,71,345

Note: The progress for FY 2025-26 will be submitted by States after end of current financial year.

Annexure 2

Annexure referred to in reply to part (c) of the Rajya Sabha Un-Starred Question No. 1507 due for reply on 12.02.2026 by Shri Derek O' Brien, regarding "Change in Forest Cover"

Table: State/UT-wise details of funds released and utilized for afforestation during the last five years (2020-21 to 2024-25):

(Rs.in Crores)

S. No.	State/UT	Total (in Crore)	
		Funds Released	Funds Utilized
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.56	0.00
2	Andhra Pradesh	114.24	98.24
3	Arunachal Pradesh	35.51	32.61
4	Assam	1.70	0.00
5	Bihar	4.42	3.21
6	Chandigarh	0.13	0.00
7	Chhattisgarh	14.78	14.77
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00
9	Delhi	0.00	0.00
10	Goa	2.05	1.44
11	Gujarat	74.73	11.48
12	Haryana	52.22	44.51
13	Himachal Pradesh	21.94	9.01
14	Jammu & Kashmir	51.81	46.51
15	Jharkhand	18.11	16.66
16	Karnataka	39.20	17.00
17	Kerala*	9.78	26.51
18	Ladakh	0.00	0.00
19	Madhya Pradesh*	123.68	124.39
20	Maharashtra	5.09	1.78
21	Manipur	32.46	31.03
22	Meghalaya	2.43	0.00
23	Mizoram	111.97	110.75
24	Nagaland	21.94	19.66
25	Odisha	84.23	64.63
26	Punjab	17.38	17.44
27	Puducherry	1.94	0.00
28	Rajasthan	22.80	22.80
29	Sikkim	47.15	45.47
30	Tamil Nadu	12.23	0.00
31	Telangana	24.73	0.00
32	Tripura	5.05	3.53
33	Uttar Pradesh	33.45	4.22
35	Uttarakhand	150.29	141.67
36	West Bengal*	8.03	11.61
Total		1146.04	920.92

* The fund utilized also include the utilization of unspent funds available with the States from release of previous year.