

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI-MATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (d) No, Sir. However a Committee has been constituted to recommend the names of five medical institutions in each of five zones of the country for upgrading the same into Regional Institutions of excellence in medical care and its report is awaited.

**CGHS Facilities in Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam**

4432. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to extend the CGHS facilities in Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI-MATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) CGHS facilities will be extended to those cities where the number of Central Govt. employees exceeds 7500 in a phased manner. Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam do not fulfill this criteria.

**Denuded Forest Land**

4433. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated extent of denuded/degraded forest land at the beginning of Seventh Plan and at the end of the Seventh Plan;

(b) the amount spent, to reforest/plant trees in these degraded forest land State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have taken any decision to involve the people also in this task; and

(d) if so, the schemes under the consideration of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) According to the available estimates of Forest Survey of India, forest land having crown density between 10% to 40% was 2.76,583 sq.kms. as per 1987 assessment (based on 1981-83 imagery) and 2.57,409 sq.kms. as per 1989 assessment (based on 1985-87 imagery).

(b) State-wise amount utilised for afforestation programmes as a whole during the Seventh Plan period is given in the statement below:

(c) and (d) Government of India has issued guidelines to all the State Governments to associate village communities, voluntary agencies and non-Government organisations with protection and regeneration of degraded forests on usufruct sharing basis. Based on these guidelines, State Governments are formulating their own schemes.

**STATEMENT**

*State-wise Utilisation of Funds for Afforestation/Tree Planting Activities during the 7th Five Year Plan*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Total for 7th Five Year plan
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	14324.63
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1879.41
3	Assam	8031.08
4	Bihar	21222.01
5	Goa	580.38
6	Gujarat	16131.35