

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3853

ANSWERED ON:22.08.2005

SCHEME FOR DEVELOPMENT OF FORESTS

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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to formulate any special scheme for the development of forests ;
- (b) if so, the nature thereof and the time by which it is likely to be implemented ; and
- (c) if not, the manner in which the Government propose to develop the forests?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a),(b) & (c) The Ministry of Environment & Forests is already implementing National Afforestation Programme (NAP) for regeneration, conservation and protection of degraded forests and adjoining lands during Tenth Five Year Plan. The Scheme is being implemented through two-tier decentralized Mechanism of Forest Development Agency (FDA) at forest division level And Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at village level. As on 31.3.2005, 620 FDA projects were approved in all 28 States to treat an area of 8.68 lakh hectares through 21,262 JFMCs.

For protection and management of existing forests central assistance is already being provided under the Integrated Forest Protection Scheme started during the Tenth Five Year Plan. During last three financial years, Rs.45.82 crores, Rs.24.09 crores and Rs.54.30 crores have been released to the States and Union Territories under the scheme.