

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3169

ANSWERED ON:11.12.2014

PLANTING OF TREES

Diwakar Shri Rajesh Kumar;Singh Shri Sushil Kumar

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the guidelines and the criteria adopted by the Government/National Highways Authority of India (NHA) for cutting and planting of the trees at the time of construction of the National Highways;
- (b) whether the Government/NHA has made any assessment regarding deforestation caused due to National Highway development and set any targets for reforestation;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the funds sanctioned, released and utilised for the purpose and achievements made during each of the last three years, State-wise including Bihar and Jharkhand; and
- (d) the amount of compensation sanctioned to the forest department for reforestation during the said period, Statewise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a) to (d) Cutting of trees in forest area is done under the provisions of the Forest Conservation Act and in non-forest area following guidelines of the respective State Governments. As part of preparation of project, environmental impact assessment is done which includes assessment of cutting of trees etc. Demand for compensatory forestation is made by the Forest department. Amount paid to the Forest department form part of the project cost. Amount towards compensatory forestation is deposited with the Forest department. The responsibility of utilization rests with them. Information on utilization is not maintained.