

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 291
TO BE ANSWERED ON 5TH DECEMBER, 2023

FARMING AND FORESTRY

291. SHRI K. NAVASKANI

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Government is cognizant that blending of farming and forestry has a number of advantages, including higher yields from staple food crops, improved farmer livelihoods through wealth creation, increased biodiversity, enhanced soil structure and health, limited erosion, and carbon sequestration; and
- (b) If so, the details of the steps that are proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the agricultural system's functioning and sustainability keeping in mind that Agroforestry could provide a variety of ecosystem services that can help to ensure long-term agricultural sustainability?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a)& (b): The Government is cognizant that blending of farming and forestry has number of advantages. Therefore, keeping in view the importance of Agroforestry, a land use system that integrates trees and shrubs on farmlands and rural landscapes to enhance productivity, profitability, diversity and ecosystem sustainability, natural resource management system through integration of trees on farms and in the agricultural landscape, diversifies and sustains production and builds social institutions; the Government has formulated the National Agroforestry Policy-2014. The policy envisages encouraging and expanding tree plantation in complementarity and integrated manner with crops and livestock to improve productivity, employment, income and livelihoods of rural households, especially the smallholder farmers. It also focuses on protecting and stabilizing ecosystems and promoting resilient cropping and farming systems to minimize the risk during extreme climatic events.

As recommended in the National Agroforestry Policy; Sub-Mission on Agroforestry (SMAF) was launched in the year 2016-17 to encourage tree plantation on farm land with the aim of "Har Medh Par Ped", along with crops/ cropping system

to help the farmers get additional income. Sub-Mission on Agroforestry (SMAF) was implemented from 2016-17 to 2021-22. Presently, the restructured Agroforestry Component is being implemented under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and focuses on Quality Planting Material. Agroforestry is known to have the potential to mitigate the climate change effects through microclimate moderation, conservation of natural resources and creation of an additional source of livelihood and income opportunities. The scheme is implemented with objectives to encourage and expand tree plantation in a complementary and integrated manner with crops to improve productivity, additional income generation and improved livelihoods of rural households, especially the small farmers. The details of cost norms of assistance being provided are shown at Annexure-I

Annexure-I to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 291 due for answer on 05.12.2023

Details of Cost Norms of Assistance being provided under the Agroforestry Component of RKVY

S.No.	Name of interventions	Unit Cost (Upper Limit) (Rs. In Lakh)	Remarks
1.	Establishment of new nurseries		
	(a) Hi-Tech (2 ha)	50.00	100% assistance to Government agencies for taking up the work on Government land and 50% assistance to Private Agency/ individual entrepreneur
	(b) Big (1 ha)	16.00	
	(c) Small (0.5 ha)	10.00	
2.	Raising saplings in the existing nursery	Upto Rs. 5.00 Lakh/nursery	
3.	Establishment of Tissue Culture Units		
	(a) Strengthening of existing tissue culture units	20.00	100% assistance to Government agencies and 50% back ended credit linked assistance for private partners
	(b) Establishment of new tissue culture units	200.00	100% assistance to Government agencies and 50% back ended credit linked assistance for private partners
