

# National Afforestation Programme

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**Source:** *PIB & Ministry of Environment & Forests*

The overall objective of the National Afforestation Programme (NAP) scheme is the **ecological restoration of degraded forests and to develop the forest resources with peoples' participation, with a focus on improvement in livelihoods of the forest-fringe communities, especially the poor.**

**NAP aims to support** and accelerate the on-going process of devolving forest conservation, protection, management, and development functions to the Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at the village level, which are registered societies.

## **Components of the scheme**

The major components of the scheme **include;**

- **Afforestation under Seven plantation models**
- Maintenance of previous years plantations and Ancillary Activities like soil and moisture conservation activities (SMC)
- Fencing, overheads, monitoring, and evaluation (M&E)
- Micro-planning
- Awareness-raising
- Entry Point Activities (EPA) etc.

## **Sanctioning of the afforestation area**

The Scheme is demand-driven and the afforestation area is sanctioned on the basis of past performance, potential degraded forest land available for eco-restoration and availability of budget.

## **Fund sharing**

- NAP is a centrally sponsored scheme which is implemented with the fund sharing pattern of 60: 40 percent between Centre and States wherein the sharing pattern for Northeastern and hilly States is 90:10.
- The central share of funds are released through State Government and state government transfers the funds to SFDA along with its state share which sometimes causes a delay in fund availability to SFDA for implementation of NAP causing delay in submission of mandatory documents for subsequent release of funds.

## **Implementation of the scheme**

The scheme is implemented by three-tier institutional set up through the following agencies;

- **The State Forest Development Agency (SFDA) at the state level**
- **Forest Development Agency (FDA) at the forest division level and**
- **JFMCs at the village level.**