# National Afforestation Programme

January 13, 2020 <u>Source:</u> 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 SFDAs for implementation of NAPcausing 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.