

SENATE OF PAKISTAN

REPORT NO. 02 OF 2019



REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

ON

"STARRED QUESTION NO.117, ASKED BY SENATOR MUHAMMAD TALHA MAHMOOD IN THE SENATE SITTING HELD ON 2ND MAY, 2019, REGARDING MINIMUM RATIO OF LAND UNDER FOREST COVER OUT OF THE TOTAL LAND OF A COUNTRY REQUIRED TO SAVE THE CLIMATE AND HAVE A BETTER ENVIRONMENT INDICATING ALSO THE PRESENT POSITION OF PAKISTAN"

PRESENTED BY:

**SENATOR SITARA AYAZ
CHAIRPERSON (COMMITTEE)**

SENATE SECRETARIAT

REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE ON STARRED QUESTION NO. 117. REGARDING THE MINIMUM RATIO OF LAND UNDER FOREST COVER.

I, Senator Sitara Ayaz, Chairperson Standing Committee on Climate Change have the honor to present on behalf of the committee, this report on the starred question No. 117, asked by senator Muhammad Talha Mahmood in the Senate sitting held on 2nd May, 2019, regarding minimum ratio of land under forest cover out of the total land of a country required to save the climate and have a better environment indicating also the present position of Pakistan, referred by this august house to the Standing Committee on Climate Change for consideration and report.

2. The composition of the Committee is as under:-

1. Senator Sitara Ayaz	Chairperson
2. Senator Sherry Rehman	Member
3. Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed	Member
4. Senator Molvi Faiz Muhammad	Member
5. Senator Muhammad Ali Khan Saif	Member
6. Senator Muhammad Akram	Member
7. Senator Pervaiz Rashid	Member
8. Senator Dr. Sikandar Mandhro	Member
9. Senator Faisal Javed	Member
10. Senator Samina Saeed	Member
11. Senator Keshoo Bai	Member
12. Senator Gul Bashra	Member
13. Senator Muhammad Asad Ali Khan Junejo	Member
14. Minister of State for Climate Change	Ex-Officio Member

3. The matter was taken up by the Committee in its meetings held on 22nd May, 16th July, and 05th August 2019. The matter was discussed in detail and the members were informed of the following details regarding points raised by the Mover, Senator Muhammad Talha Mahmood.

“The minimum ratio of land under forest cover out of the total land forest required to save the climate and have a better environment has not been specified internationally. However, it has been indicated in various reports that 10% to 25% forest cover is useful to meet local needs. Climatic conditions, particularly, rainfall dictates type and quantity of forest cover that can exist in any given land.

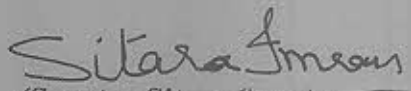
Pakistan presently has 5.01% of the total land area under forest. Hence it is one of the 56, ‘Low Forest Cover Countries’ (LFCC) in which forest cover is less than 10 percent of total land area. Such Category of Countries have special needs and requirements to increase forest cover primarily due to Arid Climate conditions. Pakistan is making effort to achieve the minimum threshold.



Although forestry is a provincial subject under the Constitution of Pakistan, Federal Government supports provinces to improve forest cover and promote tree plantation in the country through national level mega projects such as Ten billions Tree Tsunami Programme (upscaling of Green Pakistan Programme); Sustainable Forest Management projects and sustainable Land Management Projects to Combat Desertification.”

5. The Committee, accordingly found the response to be appropriate and agreed to submit the same to the August House.
6. Accordingly, the Committee submits the report for consideration in the House.


(Farhana Wagha)
Secretary Committee


(Senator Sitara Ayaz)
Chairperson