

Greening India: Progress, Challenges, and the Path Forward for Green India Mission

Naina Srivastava

Department of Botany

D.A.V. P.G. College, Dehradun, Uttarkhand, India

drnainasrivastava@gmail.com

Abstract : *Green India Mission (GIM) which focuses on ecological restoration and socio-economic development is the important component of India's National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC). The mission is based on a transition from traditional afforestation to ecosystem-based adaptation with an aim of improving forest cover, carbon sequestration and livelihoods of communities. The paper provides an overview of the genesis and design, performs a rudimentary political analysis of its impacts and challenges, and examines the ways in which it has assisted Indian Beaming focuses on climate targets--The sustainable improvement schedule. The study, based on government reports, independent evaluations and academic research, finds that while GIM has played a key role in increasing tree cover and rural livelihoods it is increasingly stalling owing to low funds, fragmented management and weak community ownership. The paper ends with policy suggestions towards enhancing institutional coordination, financing mechanisms and local empowerment. It is calling for a shift from planting trees to stewarding ecosystems in the future in order to make GIM a success; a shift that involves technology, transparency and inclusivity.*

Key Words: Green India Mission, climate change, forest governance, afforestation, India, ecosystem restoration, sustainable development