

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2346
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2006
AFFORESTATION
Agarwal Shri Dharendra;Mahato Shri Sunil Kumar

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the States where the forest cover has been expanded during the last three years;
- (b) whether there are certain States where the forest cover has not been expanded; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor and the effective steps initiated in that direction so far?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (b) The Forest Survey of India (FSI) publishes the State of Forest Report (SFR) on a biennial basis. As per the SFR-2003, the State-wise increase and decrease of forest cover in comparison to SFR-2001 are given in Annexure-I and Annexure-II respectively.

(c) The decrease in forest cover, for the States mentioned in Annexure-II is due to shifting cultivation, encroachments, felling of trees etc.

The steps taken to prevent depletion of forest cover are:

(i) Legal measures like Indian Forest Act, 1927, Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the rules, guidelines thereof.

(ii) Management measures like working of forests according to approved Working Plans, Forest Development Agencies and Joint Forest Management activities.

(iii) Financial measures like providing assistance to the States/Union Territories under Centrally Sponsored schemes and externally aided projects.

(iv) Other measures like creation of Protected Areas, Substitution of Wood etc.

(v) Guidelines for rationalizing of felling and transit regulations for tree species grown on non-forest private lands to promote large scale afforestation in non-forest areas.

Annexure-I

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (a) & (b) of Lok Sabha Q No. 2346 for reply on 13.3.2006 asked by Shri Sunil Kumar Mahato and Dr. Dharendra Agarwal regarding Afforestation

State-wise increase in forest cover from SFR 2001 to SFR 2003

(Area in sq.km.)

S.No. State/Union Territory Forest Cover SFR 2001 Forest Cover SFR 2003 Change in Forest Cover between 2001 & 2003

1. Assam	27,714	27,826	112
2. Delhi	111	170	59
3. Goa	2,095	2,156	61
4. Jammu & Kashmir	21,237	21,267	30
5. Jharkhand	22,637	22,716	79
6. Kerala	15,560	15,577	17
7. Manipur	16,926	17,219	293
8. Meghalaya	15,584	16,839	1,255
9. Mizoram	17,494	18,430	936
10. Nagaland	13,345	13,609	264

11. Sikkim	3,193	3,262	69
12. Tamilnadu	21,482	22,643	1,161
13. Tripura	7,065	8,093	1,028
14. Uttar Pradesh	13,746	14,118	372
15. Uttaranchal	23,938	24,465	527
16. West Bengal	10,693	12,343	1,650
17. Andaman & Nicobar	6,930	6,964	34
18. Chandigarh	9	15	6
19. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	219	225	6
20. Daman & Diu	6	8	2
21. Pondicherry	36	40	4

Annexure-II

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (a) & (b) Lok Sabha Q No. 2346 for and Dr. Dhirendra reply on 13.3.2006 asked by Shri Sunil Agarwai regarding Afforestation.

State-wise decrease in forest cover from SFR 2001 to SFR 2003

(Area in sq.km.)

S.No. State/Union Territory Forest Cover SFR 2001 Forest Cover SFR 2003 Change in Forest Cover between 2001 & 2003

1. Andhra Pradesh	44,637	44,419	218
2. Arunachal Pradesh	68,045	68,019	26
3. Bihar	5,720	5,558	162
4. Chhattisgarh	56,448	55,998	450
5. Gujarat	15,152	14,946	206
6. Haryana	1,754	1,517	237
7. Himachal Pradesh	14,360	14,353	7
8. Karnataka	36,991	36,449	542
9. Madhya Pradesh	77,265	76,429	836
10. Maharashtra	47,482	46,865	617
11. Orissa	48,838	48,366	472
12. Punjab	2,432	1,580	852
13. Rajasthan	16,367	15,826	541
14. Lakshdweep	27	23	4