

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5534  
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2015  
ENCROACHMENT ON FOREST LAND  
Patle Smt. Kamla Devi

**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the total area of forest land encroached in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Union Government has asked the State Governments to remove all kinds of encroachments from the forest areas;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details and status of the action taken by the State Governments in this regard, State-wise?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) The State/UT wise details of the forest area under encroachments in the country are given in Annexure-I.

(b) to (d) Protection and Management of Forests is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State/UT Government and hence the action to remove encroachment is taken as per the provisions of various acts such as Indian Forest Act, 1927; Wildlife Protection Act, 1972; Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and various rules & regulations thereof. Details regarding removal of encroachment by State Governments are not maintained in the Ministry. To prevent fresh encroachments various measures are taken such as setting up of check posts, barriers, use of modern technology that includes wireless network, remote sensing, Geographical Information System, Information Technology, use of Global Positioning System (GPS) and Differential GPS, improved mobility to the field staff by providing vehicles for patrolling, survey and demarcation of forest areas including digitization of recorded forest areas and construction of boundary pillars. Support of local communities in conservation, protection and management of forests is also solicited through Joint Forest Management Committees/ Village level committees.

The Ministry supplements the efforts of the States in protection and management of forests through Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely Intensification of Forest Management Scheme.