

monitoring using satellite imageries was carried out by National Remote Sensing Agency for the years 1972-75, at reconnaissance level scale on 1:1 Million as a first effort to develop the methodology. Subsequently the operational methodology for estimation of national forest cover using satellite imageries was jointly evolved by National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA) of Department of Space and Forest Survey of India (FSI) of Department of Environment, Forest and Wildlife.

(b) and (c). For the periods 1981-83, FSI and NRSA jointly estimated the country's total forest cover as 19.52% of the total geographical area of the country. FSI is currently carrying out biennial monitoring of forest cover of India on a routine basis using satellite imageries supplied by NRSA to monitor the changes that are occurring in forest cover at the State level. The current estimate by FSI for the time period of 1985-87 has shown the total forest cover as 19.47% of the total geographical area of the country. There has been a reduction of about 1900 Sq. Km. in the total forest cover, notwithstanding an increased about 17000 Sq. Km. in the dense forest cover (crown density more than 40%).

[English]

**Difficulties Arising out of Implementation of Indian Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980**

6142. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the

<i>Total received</i>	<i>Total approved</i>	<i>Total not Approved</i>	<i>Total rejected for non-furnishing of information</i>	<i>Pending</i>	<i>Withdrawn</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6
4023	1967	547	1268	134	107

PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fast depletion of forest could be checked by the implementation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980;

(b) if so, the extent to which it could be checked;

(c) whether there are complaints from different parts of the country about the developmental projects being affected by the implementation of the Act;

(d) the names of projects held up due to Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980; and

(e) the steps being taken to clear them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI):

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Since the enactment of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 the rate of diversion of forest land has gone down from 1,50,000 ha. per annum during the period 1951-1980 to 15,400 ha. per annum during 1980-1989.

(c) and (d). Statement showing position of proposals received from the States/UTs under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as on 31.3.1990 is as below:

The details of projects pending with the Central Government are as shown in the Attached Statement. The Government of India have fixed a time limit of six weeks for disposal of cases.

(e) There was a general feeling that considerable time is taken in clearance of cases under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Hence, steps were taken for simplification of procedure for expeditious clearance of cases by Central Government in June, 1989. These are as below:

1. Only those cases wherein forest area involved is more than 10 hectares are now referred to Advisory committee for its advice. Cases involving forest area upto 10 hectares are decided by this Ministry without referring the cases to the Advisory Committee. Further Regional Chief Conservator of Forests have been authorised to clear forest diversion proposals involving forest land less than one hectare.
2. In cases containing proposals for laying of transmission lines or pipes for drinking water supply and exploratory drilling for prospecting oil which do not involve any cutting or felling of trees, simplified proforma is to be used. The simplified proforma can also be used in cases involving forest areas upto 2 hectares provided the area is devoid of tree cover or is having scanty tree growth and no tree cutting or felling of trees is involved.
3. The Government of India do not allow diversion of forest land for rehabilitation of the people. However, such diversion is considered a special cases, if essentially required for rehabilitation of scheduled tribes, scheduled castes and other people who may have to be shifted from the core zone of a National Park of Reserve.
4. Diversion of forest land for construction of building is not normally considered. However, such diversion are allowed for construction of building, school, hospital, dispensary, cooperatives, panchayat, Tiny rural industrial sheds of the Government, etc. which are to be put up for the benefit of the people of that area, but such diversion should be strictly limited to the actual needed area and should not exceed one hectare in each case.

## STATEMENT

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Name of Project</i>
1	2	3	4
1.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra	Approach road to bridge between Shikohabad-Wah road.
2.	"	Chamoli	Construction of Paingarh bridle path.
3.	"	Pithoragarh	Construction of Thuigad-Bhairav Mandi Motor road.
4.	"	Dehradun	Renewal of underground phosphate mining lease in favour of PPCL at Maldevta.
5.	"	Chamoli	Sonla-Kothari-Narayan Bagad Motor Road.
6.	"	Pithoragarh	Chilkachhina-Thuwa-Simalkhet Motor road
7.	"	Sonebhadra	Rihand Super Thermal Power Plant.
8.	"	Almora	Construction of Barat Canal.
9.	"	Almora	Construction of Chami Water Supply Scheme.
10.	"	Behraich	Collection of sand stone in Behraich.
11.	"	Kanpur	Mining of sand from Ganga river at Kanpur.

Sl. No.	State	District	Name of Project
1	2	3	4
12.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	Widening for 4 lane Ahmedabad link road NH 8 and 8A.
13.	"	Amareli	66 K.V. Trans line at Khicha.
14.	"	Dangs	Collection of boulders etc.
15.	"	Junagarh	Soda Ash Plant.
16.	"	Panchmahal	Bhadar Irrigation canal.
17.	West Bengal	Darjeeling	Construction of approach road to bridge.
18.	"	Midnapore	Construction of bicanal from main canal of Kangsabati.
19.	"	Jalpaiguri	Construction of Distributory No. 1 Mahananda Teesta link canal.
20.	"	Jalpaiguri	Jaldhaka main canal of Teesta Barrage.
21.	Gujarat	Banaskantha	Denotification of forest land for Marble Industries at Ambaji.
22.	Punjab	Patiala	440 K.V. Dehar-Bhiwani Transmission line.
23.	"	Patiala	4 laning of G.T. Road.

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Name of Project</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
24.	Bihar	Singhbhum	Permission to Steel Authority of India for felling 678 trees.
25.	Arunachal Pradesh	Subansiri	132 K.V. Nirjula Gohpur Transmission line.
26.	Assam	Kokrajhar	132 K.V. Transmission line from Salakati to Geyleghphug.
27.	Maharashtra	Raigarh	Renewal of stone quarry lease.
28.	"	Buldhana	M.I.T. at Hiwarkhed-III.
29.	Andhra Pradesh	Chittoor	M.I.T.
30.	"	Guntur	Nagarjuna Sagar Gooty transmission line.
31.	"	Khammam	Transmission line.
32.	"	Khammam	Transmission line.
33.	"	Khammam	Transmission line.
34.	"	Chittoor	Checkdam in Tirumala.
35.	Orissa	Dhenkanal	Regali Transmission line.

Sl. No.	State	District	Name of Project
1	2	3	4
36.	Mizoram	Aizawal	C.I.J.W. School.
37.	Tripura		Eviction of flame stock by O.N.G.C.
38.	Tripura	South Tripura	Border Road.
39.	Goa	South Goa	Mining lease.
40.	"	North Goa	Mining lease.
41.	Orissa	Sundargarh	Masina nala Irrigation Project.
42.	"	Sambalpur	Lilari open cast coal project.
43.	Rajasthan	Chittorgarh	Hydel Project.
44.	Tamil Nadu	Kamarajan	Allotment of land in favour of Siranjuri Ashram Trust.
45.	"	Anna	Kuthirair Reservoir Scheme.
46.	"	Dharampuri	Diversion of 20 M forest land to Tourism Department for construction of bridge.

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Name of Project</i>
1	2	3	4
47.	Kerala	Ernakulam	220 K.V. Idduki-Trichur Transmission line.
48.	"	"	Cultivation of Pepper over 300 ha.
49.	Karnataka	Bellary	Renewal of M/L in favour of Zeenath Transport Company.
50.	"	"	—do—
51.	"	Bellary	M/L in favour of Hothur Traders.
52.	"	"	M/L in favour of Gogga Guru Snasthan.
53.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	Construction of Nankhari Bealth Road.
54.	"	Chamba	132 K.V. T/L from Bathri to Korian.
55.	"	Shimla	Khandwa Choki Thalagdhar Road.
56.	"	Shimla	132 K.V. T/L from Gagaj to Kunihar.
57.	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra	800 K.V. T/L from Kisanpur to Mogra.
58.	"	Shimla	Ropeway in Shimla.

Sl. No.	State	District	Name of Project
1	2	3	4
59.	Haryana		Dhanora drill site of ONGC.
60.	"	Hissar	Construction of four laning road.
61.	Madhya Pradesh	Raipur	Paseeda Tanu Project.
62.	"	Damoh	Panda Tanu Project.
63.	"	Rajnadaon	Renewal of M/L in favour of M.P. Moharatra Minerals (P) Co.
64.	"	Balaghat	Dokariya Nalla Tank Project.
65.	"	Mandla	M/L in favour of BALCO.
66.	"	Jabalpur	Patpara Tanu Project.
67.	"	Ratlam	Dholabad Irrigation Project.
68.	"	Rajnadaon	Mogra Irrigation Project.
69.	"	Dewas	11 K.V. T/L.
70.	"	Shahdol	Sanjay Gandhi Thermal Power Station.



<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Name of Project</i>
1	2	3	4
71.	Madhya Pradesh	Gwalior	Guna Etava Railway Line.
72.	"	Raisen	Mogha Irrigation Project.
73.	"	Shivpuri	Mohini Pick-up Weir.
74.	"	Panna	Bhawanipur Tank Project.
75.	"	Guna	Gobindpura Irrigation Project.
76.	"	Morena	Burgura-Palpur Road.
77.	"	Bastar	Bodhghat Multi purpose Project.
78-119.			42 cases for regularisation of encroachment from various districts in Madhya Pradesh.
120.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	Construction of road from Devkaran to Motipura.
121.	"	Kutch	Special Project of Aviation Research Station of D.G.S. in village Gadoly.
122.	"	Sabarkantha	Construction of High Level Reservoir of Water Supply Scheme in village Rudardi.

Sl. No.	State	District	Name of Project
1	2	3	4
123.	Gujarat	Vadodara	Construction of Vadodara Jam busar State Highway at village Tabasa.
124.	"	Junagarh	Laying of Pipelines for Indian Flayon and Industries Ltd. at Veraval.
125.	Maharashtra	Pune	Construction of road from Borghar to Kavalshed in Ambegaon Taluka.
126.	"	Nasik	Laying of 11 K.V. T/L through forest village Chinchali.
127.	Madhya Pradesh	Bastar	Leasing of forest land for graphite mining by Arving Minerals.
128.	Uttar Pradesh	Almora	Construction of Babilya Canal.
129.	"	Almora	Construction of Thana Bajnath building.
130.	"	Tehri	Construction of Zinsi canal.
131.	"	Pithoragarh	Construction of Turgali Canal
132.	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra	Construction of Cafeteria at Nurpur.
133.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli		Construction of road from Kaunchajetty to Chikhailpada.
134.	West Bengal	West Midnapore	Sinking of tubewell and laying of underground pipeline.