

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1033**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2020

**Change in Forest Cover**

1033. SHRI RAJA AMARESHWARA NAIK:  
SHRI BHOLA SINGH:  
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:  
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH:  
DR. JAYANTA KUMAR ROY:  
DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR:  
SHRI VINOD KUMAR SONKAR:

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

- (a) whether the “India State of Forest Report 2019” has recently been released and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there is change in forest cover in 2019 *viz-a-viz* 2017, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the States that showed most increase in forest area along with top five States in terms of percentage of area under forest, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether any legal provision exists to check deforestation and large scale felling of trees, if so, the details thereof along with the funds sanctioned for protection and conservation of forests during the last three years, State/UT-wise; and
- (e) the progress made so far along with the steps taken by the Government in preparing comprehensive mapping of forest cover/area in the country?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)**

- (a) & (b) The India State of forest Report (ISFR) 2019 was released on 30<sup>th</sup> December, 2019 by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. The total forest and tree cover of the country, as per the ISFR 2019 is 8, 07,276 square kilometre (km<sup>2</sup>), which is 24.56% of the total geographical area of the country. It comprises of 7, 12,249 km<sup>2</sup> of Forest Cover, and 95,027 km<sup>2</sup> of Tree Cover. The ISFR 2019 shows an increase of 5,188 km<sup>2</sup> (forest cover 3,976 km<sup>2</sup> and tree cover 1,212 km<sup>2</sup>) over that of ISFR 2017.

As per ISFR 2019, forest cover has increased in most of the States and UTs due to plantation and conservation activities. However, some decline in forest cover has been

observed in a few States/UTs due to various reasons such as shifting cultivation, mining, construction of dams, road and railway network, etc.

- (c) The top five States in ISFR 2019 that showed most increase in forest cover over ISFR 2017 are Andhra Pradesh (3.52%), Karnataka (2.73%), Kerala (4.05%), Jammu and Kashmir (1.60%) and Himachal Pradesh (2.21%).

The top five States in term of percentage of the total geographical area under forest are Mizoram (85.41%), Arunachal Pradesh (79.63%), Meghalaya (76.33%), Manipur (75.46%) and Nagaland (75.31%).

- (d) The responsibility of forest protection lies primarily with the respective State/UT Governments. Accordingly, the State/ UT Governments take necessary action under the Indian Forest Act, 1927, Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and various State Acts & Rules to check deforestation and large-scale felling.

The Ministry provides funds to States/UTs for protection and conservation of forests under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes. These include Forest Fire Prevention and Management (FPM) Scheme, National Afforestation Programme (NAP), National Mission for a Green India (GIM) and Development of Wildlife Habitats (DWH). The recently promulgated Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rules, 2018 also contain provisions for taking up assisted natural regeneration, artificial regeneration and silvicultural operations in forests which contribute to increase in forest cover. The Ministry also supports school nursery and urban forestry programmes through people's participation.

Afforestation activities are also taken up under various programmes/funding sources such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana and under the schemes/plans of State/UT governments.

Details of fund released by the Ministry to the States/UTs for protection, development and promotion of forests under FPM, NAP, GIM and DWH during the last three years are given in **Annexure I, II, III, IV** respectively. Details of funds released to States/UTs under Compensatory Afforestation Fund during the last three years by the Ad-hoc Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority are given in **Annexure V**.

- (e) Forest Survey of India (FSI), an organization under the Ministry, carries out biennial mapping and assessment of forest cover using satellite based remote sensing data and intensive ground truthing. The findings are published in the India State of Forest Reports. So far, 16 assessments and mapping of forest cover have been carried out. The reports and the forest cover maps give information on total forest cover in various density classes at national, state and district levels.

Keeping in pace with the technology, methodology to assess forest cover is periodically refined by FSI. Presently, mapping is carried out at a scale of 1:50,000 with a minimum mappable area of 1 hectare using LISS-III sensor data of Indian Remote Sensing Satellite.

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## Annexure I

## Annexure referred to in reply to part (d) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1033 due for answer on 07.02.2020 regarding 'Change in Forest Cover'

Details of fund released to States/UTs under Forest Fire Prevention and Management Scheme  
(Rs. in Crore)

S. No.	States/UTs	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19
1	Andaman Nicobar Islands	0.5623	0.0900	0.2641
2	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	2.6006
3	Arunachal Pradesh	1.8134	1.0200	0.8908
4	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.9323
5	Bihar	0.8859	0.07500	0.5717
6	Chandigarh	0.7452	0.008	0.0100
7	Chhattisgarh	2.1104	1.6800	1.0460
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Delhi	0.50	0.30	0.00
11	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.8783
12	Gujarat	1.2226	0.7500	0.9216
13	Haryana	0.9391	0.7500	0.00
14	Himachal Pradesh	3.3136	2.7670	0.00
15	Jammu & Kashmir	0.9561	0.7500	0.00
16	Jharkhand	1.9963	1.0500	1.0784
17	Karnataka	2.0327	1.0500	1.7470
18	Kerala	1.6365	2.3453	2.7957
19	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00
20	Madhya Pradesh	2.8115	1.6800	6.2825
21	Maharashtra	3.7258	3.2158	7.8728
22	Manipur	1.2502	2.1988	2.3054
23	Meghalaya	1.2657	1.0463	1.1353
24	Mizoram	1.3129	0.9059	1.1047
25	Nagaland	1.7001	0.9256	0.8312
26	Odisha	2.6614	1.6800	4.3500
27	Pondicherry	0.00	0.3000	0.4984
28	Punjab	0.00	0.7500	0.00
29	Rajasthan	1.7422	1.0500	0.9882
30	Sikkim	1.1973	1.4859	0.00
31	Tamil Nadu	0.7429	1.0500	0.00
32	Telangana	0.00	1.0500	0.00
33	Tripura	1.9076	0.6600	1.0973
34	Uttar Pradesh	1.3972	0.7500	1.0061
35	Uttarakhand	3.0403	1.6800	4.3838
36	West Bengal	0.9283	0.7500	0.5414
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>44.3975</b>	<b>34.5606</b>	<b>46.1336</b>

## Annexure II

Annexure referred to in reply to part (d) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1033 due for answer on 07.02.2020 regarding 'Change in Forest Cover'

**Details of State wise funds released under National Afforestation Programme**

(Rupees in Crore)				
S. No.	State	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19
1	Andhra Pradesh	1.33	3.36	6.38
2	Bihar	2.18	4.23	0.00
3	Chhattisgarh	4.92	10.86	7.82
4	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Gujarat	4.36	0.00	0.00
6	Haryana	3.50	2.71	0.00
7	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	1.72	2.92
8	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	7.20	0.00
9	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Karnataka	7.33	3.24	10.99
11	Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00
12	Madhya Pradesh	4.00	8.74	7.78
13	Maharashtra	4.76	6.73	15.33
14	Orissa	4.62	3.49	11.36
15	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00
16	Rajasthan	0.00	1.40	1.95
17	Tamil Nadu	1.56	0.00	2.07
18	Telangana	0.00	0.00	0.00
19	Uttar Pradesh	2.55	0.67	0.32
20	Uttarakhand	0.00	3.36	2.58
21	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	0.00
22	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.86	0.00
23	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.58
24	Manipur	1.21	3.19	4.38
25	Meghalaya	0.00	1.65	0.74
26	Mizoram	6.74	5.80	7.79
27	Nagaland	5.21	5.85	6.41
28	Sikkim	5.09	0.00	5.98
29	Tripura	0.00	4.94	0.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>59.35</b>	<b>80.00</b>	<b>95.38</b>

**Annexure III**

Annexure referred to in reply to part (d) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1033 due for answer on 07.02.2020 regarding 'Change in Forest Cover'

**State-wise details of funds released under Green India Mission**

(Rupees in Crore)

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>FY 2016-17</b>	<b>FY 2017-18</b>	<b>FY 2018-19</b>
1	Andhra Pradesh	1.0553	0.4460	2.6662
2	Chhattisgarh	20.2301	10.9527	5.3607
3	Karnataka	0.8685	0.8573	1.6233
4	Kerala	-	-	-
5	Manipur	7.8228	6.4157	4.8881
6	Mizoram	9.8835	20.00	22.3640
7	Odisha	1.3896	1.4055	4.7433
8	Punjab	-	6.2173	-
9	Uttarakhand	-	-	-
10	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	24.1591
11	Maharashtra	-	-	10.3018
12	Sikkim	-	-	3.3236
13	West Bengal	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>41.2499</b>	<b>46.2946</b>	<b>79.4304</b>

## Annexure IV

Annexure referred to in reply to part (d) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1033 due for answer on 07.02.2020 regarding 'Change in Forest Cover'

**Details of funds released under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Development of Wildlife Habitats'**

(Rupees in Crore)

S.No.	States/UTs	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19
1	A& N Islands	1.1849	1.4193	1.91
2	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	0.75
3	Arunachal Pradesh	2.5681	2.6993	3.4442
4	Assam	0	2.7582	2.6532
5	Bihar	1.0057	3.2267	7.49
6	Chandigarh	0.2606	0.2606	0
7	Chhattisgarh	2.7894	4.3501	3.5061
8	Goa	0	0.8599	0
9	Gujarat	4.9760	5.5852	22.32
10	Haryana	1.2465	1.8144	1.55
11	Himachal Pradesh	2.8031	2.3741	3.7030
12	Jammu & Kashmir	3.3650	5.7791	4.9243
13	Jharkhand	0	0.9560	0.5051
14	Karnataka	3.2552	4.2789	6.53
15	Kerala	19.2842	9.0083	12.9340
16	Madhya Pradesh	3.2226	13.7948	9.1220
17	Maharashtra	4.9735	8.0805	10.3120
18	Manipur	3.4003	4.2566	4.0560
19	Meghalaya	0.5523	1.1406	3.12
20	Mizoram	12.3495	4.8744	4.30
21	Nagaland	3.5784	5.6587	8.8220
22	Odisha	2.7965	3.4293	4.99
23	Rajasthan	4.5387	6.2242	5.85
24	Sikkim	1.4552	2.0215	3.94
25	Tamil Nadu	0	3.9472	3.8410
26	Telangana	0	1.5708	0
27	Uttar Pradesh	2.5095	3.8696	1.1981
28	Uttarakhand	5.4530	29.7936	17.6410
29	West Bengal	2.3766	6.5799	9.6060
30	Puducherry	0	0	0
31	Lakshadweep	0	0.0671	0.4630
32	Delhi	0	0	5.5190
33	WII, Dehradun	0	0	0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>89.9454</b>	<b>150.00</b>	<b>165.00</b>

## Annexure V

Annexure referred to in reply to part (d) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1033 due for answer on 07.02.2020 regarding 'Change in Forest Cover'

**Details of State/UTs wise funds released  
under Compensatory Afforestation Fund by Ad-hoc CAMPA**

State/UT	FY 16-17	FY-17-18	FY-18-19
	Release (Rs.)	Release (Rs.)	Release (Rs.)
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Nil	1,33,00,000.00	1,56,00,000.00
Andhra Pradesh	890,000,000	97,00,00,000.00	1,04,47,00,000.00
Arunachal Pradesh	1,500,000,000		3,54,15,00,000.00
Assam	300,000,000	70,00,00,000.00	45,84,00,000.00
Bihar	330,000,000	30,31,00,000.00	46,61,90,000.00
Chandigarh	10,000,000	1,13,00,000.00	1,27,00,000.00
Chhattisgarh	2,800,000,000	Nil	Nil
Dadar Nagar Haveli	Nil	Nil	Nil
Daman & Diu	Nil	Nil	Nil
Delhi	40,000,000	Nil	Nil
Goa		Nil	Nil
Gujarat	990,000,000	27,00,00,000.00	2,12,6600,000.00
Haryana	180,000,000	80,00,00,000.00	1,44,20,00,000.00
Himachal Pradesh	1,506,200,000	1,20,00,00,000.00	1,32,52,00,000.00
Jammu Kashmir	1,020,000,000	69,00,00,000.00	Nil
Jharkhand	1,490,000,000	2,34,00,00,000.00	2,86,25,00,000.00
Karnataka	851,200,000	86,00,00,000.00	1,01,40,00,000.00
Kerala	Nil	8,00,00,000.00	14,61,00,000.00
Lakshadweep	Nil	Nil	Nil
Madhya Pradesh	1,400,000,000	2,00,00,00,000.00	2,68,76,00,000.00
Maharashtra	2,050,000,000	1,99,00,00,000.00	2,25,00,00,000.00
Manipur	150,000,000	29,50,00,000.00	24,85,00,000.00
Meghalaya		7,00,00,000.00	Nil
Mizoram	77,300,000	6,85,00,000.00	8,30,00,000.00
Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil
Orissa	4,260,000,000	5,09,00,00,000.00	5,54,00,00,000.00
Puducherry	Nil	Nil	Nil
Punjab	660,000,000	64,00,00,000.00	79,20,00,000.00
Rajasthan	1,480,600,000	1,79,00,00,000.00	1,82,03,00,000.00
Sikkim	90,000,000	Nil	Nil
Tamil Nadu	90,000,000	12,68,00,000.00	7,00,00,000.00
Telangana	1,170,000,000	1,27,00,00,000.00	2,37,38,00,000.00
Tripura	120,000,000	7,10,00,000	16,70,00,000.00
Uttar Pradesh	970,000,000	1,44,00,00,000.00	1,50,60,00,000.00
Uttarakhand	1,707,100,000	96,00,00,000.00	3,03,00,00,000.00
West Bengal	210,000,000	Nil	21,22,00,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,342,400,000</b>	<b>24,049,000,000.00</b>	<b>35,235,890,000.00</b>



