

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 21.12.2009**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**LOSS OF FOREST COVER .**

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Shri Prakash Javadekar

Will the Minister of COAL AND ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :-  
the details of the quantum of the loss of forest cover every year on the face of different data quoted by Government agencies in the Supreme Court, before the parliamentary committees and in the Forest Survey of India?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

As per 'India State Forest Report 2009' published by Forest Survey of India, the forest cover of the country has shown a net increase of 728 km<sup>2</sup> (72,800 ha.) between 2005 & 2007 while the decadal change in forest cover of the country between the period 1997 and 2007 has been assessed as 31,349 km<sup>2</sup> (3.13 million ha.). The Government of India uses the data on the forest cover from the State of Forest Report's of Forest Survey of India before the parliamentary committees, in the Supreme Court, etc.