

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 3241**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 31.03.2022

**Impact of climate change on forest dwellers**

3241. DR. NARENDRA JADHAV:

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

- (a) whether Government has conducted any study in recent times on the rate of deforestation in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has conducted any study to monitor the effect of climate change on traditional forest dwellers, if so the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a) & (b) Forest Survey of India (FSI), Dehradun, an organization under the Ministry carries out the assessment of forest cover of the country biennially since 1987 and the findings are published in India State of Forest Report (ISFR). This assessment gives the requisite data on change of forest cover in the country. The forest cover assessment is a wall-to-wall mapping exercise based on remote sensing supported by intensive ground verification and field data from National Forest Inventory. The ISFR-2021 has been recently released by the Ministry on 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2022. As per ISFR-2021, the total forest cover of the country is 7,13,789 square kilometre showing an overall increase of 1540 square kilometre of forest cover at the national level as compared to the previous assessment i.e. ISFR 2019. The details of State and Union Territory wise forest cover are given in **Annexure-I**. The details of State showing decline in forest cover in comparison to previous assessment (ISFR 2019) are given at **Annexure-II**. The loss in forest cover in some States may be attributed mainly to natural calamities, anthropogenic pressures, developmental activities and shifting cultivation etc.
- (c) & (d) The Ministry has not conducted any specific study to monitor the effect of climate change on traditional forest dwellers. The India State of Forest Report published by the Ministry shows that overall at the national level forest cover has increased by 21,762 square kilometre in the last one decade. There is no decreasing trend in forest cover of the country.

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**Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3241  
due for answer on 31.03.2022 regarding 'Impact of climate change on forest dwellers'**

State and Union Territory wise details of forest cover as per ISFR 2021

(Area in square kilometre )

S. No.	State/UTs	Graphical Area (GA)	Total Forest Cover	Percentage of Geographical area	Change in Forest Cover w.r.t ISFR 2019
1	Andhra Pradesh	1,62,968	29,784	18.28	647
2	Arunachal Pradesh	83,743	66,431	79.33	-257
3	Assam	78,438	28,312	36.09	-15
4	Bihar	94,163	7,381	7.84	75
5	Chhattisgarh	1,35,192	55,717	41.21	106
6	Delhi	1,483	195.00	13.15	-0.44
7	Goa	3,702	2,244	60.62	7
8	Gujarat	1,96,244	14,926	7.61	69
9	Haryana	44,212	1,603	3.63	1
10	Himachal Pradesh	55,673	15,443	27.73	9
11	Jharkhand	79,716	23,721	29.76	110
12	Karnataka	1,91,791	38,730	20.19	155
13	Kerala	38,852	21,253	54.70	109
14	Madhya Pradesh	3,08,252	77,493	25.14	11
15	Maharashtra	3,07,713	50,798	16.51	20
16	Manipur	22,327	16,598	74.34	-249
17	Meghalaya	22,429	17,046	76.00	-73
18	Mizoram	21,081	17,820	84.53	-186
19	Nagaland	16,579	12,251	73.90	-235
20	Odisha	1,55,707	52,156	33.50	537
21	Punjab	50,362	1,847	3.67	-2
22	Rajasthan	3,42,239	16,655	4.87	25
23	Sikkim	7,096	3,341	47.08	-1
24	Tamil Nadu	1,30,060	26,419	20.31	55
25	Telangana	1,12,077	21,214	18.93	632
26	Tripura	10,486	7,722	73.64	-4
27	Uttar Pradesh	2,40,928	14,818	6.15	12
28	Uttarakhand	53,483	24,305	45.44	2
29	West Bengal	88,752	16,832	18.96	-70
30	A & N Islands	8,249	6,744	81.75	1
31	Chandigarh	114	22.88	20.07	0.85
32	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	602	227.75	37.83	0.10
33	Jammu & Kashmir	2,22,236	21,387	39.15	29
34	Ladakh		2,272	1.35	18
35	Lakshadweep	30	27.10	90.33	0.00
36	Puducherry	490	53.30	10.88	0.89
<b>Total</b>		<b>32,87,469</b>	<b>7,13,789</b>	<b>21.71</b>	<b>1,540</b>

**Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3241 due for answer on 31.03.2022 regarding ‘Impact of climate change on forest dwellers’**

Details of States showing decline in Forest cover as per ISFR 2021 in comparison to previous assessment i.e. ISFR 2019.

(Area in square kilometre)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Geo-graphical Area (GA)	Total Forest Cover	Change in Forest Cover w.r.t. ISFR 2019
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	83,743	66,431	-257
2.	Manipur	22,327	16,598	-249
3.	Nagaland	16,579	12,251	-235
4.	Mizoram	21,081	17,820	-186
5.	Meghalaya	22,429	17,046	-73
6.	West Bengal	88,752	16,832	-70
7.	Assam	78,438	28,312	-15
8.	Tripura	10,486	7,722	-4
9.	Punjab	50,362	1,847	-2
10.	Sikkim	7,096	3,341	-1
11.	Delhi	1,483	195.00	-0.44