

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO: 99*
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.12.2022

Increase in forest cover

99. SHRI S. SELVAGANABATHY:

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

- (a) the names of States/UTs where forest cover has increased/decreased during the last three years;
- (b) the details of the schemes implemented by Government during the last few years to increase forest cover and develop new forest areas in various cities of the country, State/UT-wise including Puducherry; and
- (c) whether Government has any scheme to increase forest coverage on the basis of their utility and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV)

- (a) to (c) The statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement refer to in reply to part (a) to (c) of Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 99 due for reply on 15.12.2022 regarding 'Increase in Forest Cover' by Shri S. Selvaganabathy:

- (a) The 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). 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. As per latest ISFR 2021, the total forest cover of the country is 7,13,789 square kilometre which is 21.71% of the geographical area of the country. The current assessment shows that the total forest cover of the country has increased by 1540 square kilometre, tree cover has increased by 721 square kilometre, and total forest and tree cover has increased by 2261 square kilometre at the national level as compared to the previous assessment i.e. ISFR 2019. The names of States/UTs where forest cover has increased during the last three years are given at **Annexure-I** and where forest cover has decreased during the last three years are given at **Annexure-II**.
- (b) The Ministry is implementing Nagar Van Yojana (NVY) since the year 2020 which envisages creation of 400 Nagar Vans and 200 Nagar Vatika in the country during the period 2020-21 to 2024-25 with an objective to enhance the forest and green cover in the urban and peri-urban areas including biological diversity and provide ecological benefits and improving the quality of life of city dwellers from funds available under National Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAMPA). So far, the Ministry has approved 270 projects under Nagar Van Yojana with the total cost of Rs.238.64 Crore, which includes an amount of Rs. 57.14 Crore for creation of 97 Nagar Van/Vatika during 2022-23. The State/UT wise-details of fund released under Nagar Van Yojana during 2022-23 are enclosed at **Annexure-III**.
- (c) The Ministry implements various schemes namely National Mission for a Green India (GIM), Nagar Van Yojana, CAMPA etc. to enhance soil and water conservation inside forest areas, and for meeting the demand of timber, non-timber forest produce and fuel wood of local community and wood based industries, and for improvement of recreational value of forests, wildlife habitat and wildlife population besides increasing forest cover. The GIM is one of the eight Missions outlined under the National Action Plan on Climate Change, which aims at protecting, restoring and enhancing India's forest cover and responding to Climate Change by undertaking plantation activities in the forest and non-forest areas. The GIM activities were started in the FY 2015-16. So far, a sum of Rs. 681.92 Crores has been released to fifteen States and one union territory for creation of plantation over an area of 128383 hectares. The State-wise detail of funds released during 2020-21 to 2022-23 under GIM is given at **Annexure-IV**.

The Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAMPA fund) are being utilized by States/UTs for taking up various afforestation activities through planting of native species, and forest & wildlife protection activities as per approved Annual Plan of Operations for compensating the loss of forest & tree cover due to diversion of forest land for developmental projects as per provisions of Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016 (CAF Act) and CAF Rules, 2018. The details of CAMPA fund utilized by State/UTs during last three years (2019-2020 to 2021-22) are given at **Annexure-V**.

Afforestation activities are also taken up under various programs/schemes of line Ministry such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, National Bamboo Mission, Sub-Mission on Agroforestry etc. and under various schemes of State Government /UT Administration, and by various departments, Non-Government Organizations, Civil Society, Corporate bodies etc. The multi departmental efforts have yielded good results in conserving forest and environment by addressing the problem of deforestation, besides keeping the pace of development, which is evident from the fact that the forest cover has stabilized and has been constantly increasing over the years. As per the latest ISFR 2021, the total forest cover of the country has increased by 12,294 square kilometres in the last seven years (ISFR 2015 to ISFR 2021).

Annexure-I

**Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 99
due for answer on 15.12.2022 regarding 'Increase in Forest Cover'**

States/UTs details of increase in Forest Cover between ISFR 2019 and ISFR 2021

(Area in square kilometre)

S. No.	States/UTs	Geographical area	ISFR	ISFR	Change in Forest Cover between ISFR 2021 & ISFR 2019 (b-a)
			2019 (a)	2021 (b)	
1	Andhra Pradesh	1,62,968	29,137	29,784	647
2	Bihar	94,163	7,306	7,381	75
3	Chhattisgarh	1,35,192	55,611	55,717	106
4	Goa	3,702	2,237	2,244	7
5	Gujarat	1,96,244	14,857	14,926	69
6	Haryana	44,212	1,602	1,603	1
7	Himachal Pradesh	55,673	15,434	15,443	9
8	Jharkhand	79,716	23,611	23,721	110
9	Karnataka	1,91,791	38,575	38,730	155
10	Kerala	38,852	21,144	21,253	109
11	Madhya Pradesh	3,08,252	77,482	77,493	11
12	Maharashtra	3,07,713	50,778	50,798	20
13	Odisha	1,55,707	51,619	52,156	537
14	Rajasthan	3,42,239	16,630	16,655	25
15	Tamil Nadu	1,30,060	26,364	26,419	55
16	Telangana	1,12,077	20,582	21,214	632
17	Uttar Pradesh	2,40,928	14,806	14,818	12
18	Uttarakhand	53,483	24,303	24,305	2
19	A&N Islands	8,249	6,743	6,744	1
20	Chandigarh	114	22.03	22.88	0.85
21	Dadra & Nagar Haveli [#]	491	207.16	227.75	0.10
22	Daman & Diu [#]	111	20.49		
23	Jammu & Kashmir*	2,22,236	21,358	21,387	29
24	Ladakh		2,254	2,272	18
25	Lakshadweep	30	27.1	27.1	0
26	Puducherry	490	52.41	53.3	0.89

* From ISFR 2019 onwards Jammu & Kashmir was divided into two UTs viz. Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

From ISFR 2021 onwards Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu have been combined into one UT.

**Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 99
due for answer on 15.12.2022 regarding 'Increase in Forest Cover'
States/UTs details of decrease in Forest Cover between ISFR 2019 and ISFR 2021**

(Area in square kilometre)

S. No.	States/UTs	Geographical area	ISFR	ISFR	Change in Forest Cover between ISFR 2021 & ISFR 2019 (b-a)
			2019 (a)	2021 (b)	
1	Arunachal Pradesh	83,743	66,688	66,431	-257
2	Assam	78,438	28,327	28,312	-15
3	Delhi	1,483	195.44	195	-0.44
4	Manipur	22,327	16,847	16,598	-249
5	Meghalaya	22,429	17,119	17,046	-73
6	Mizoram	21,081	18,006	17,820	-186
7	Nagaland	16,579	12,486	12,251	-235
8	Punjab	50,362	1,849	1,847	-2
9	Sikkim	7,096	3,342	3,341	-1
10	Tripura	10,486	7,726	7,722	-4
11	West Bengal	88,752	16,902	16,832	-70

**Annexure referred to in reply to part (b) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 99
due for answer on 15.12.2022 regarding 'Increase in Forest Cover'**

State wise fund release under Nagar Van Yojana for the year 2022-23

(Rupees in Lakhs)

S.No.	State	Number of Proposals	Total Cost	First Installment
1	Andhra Pradesh	3	512.3	358.61
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1	80	56
3	Bihar	4	196.6	137.62
4	Himachal Pradesh	4	456.28	319.396
5	Jammu & Kashmir	2	160	112
6	Jharkhand	2	221.61	155.127
7	Madhya Pradesh	16	1678.72	1175.104
8	Maharashtra	3	276.95	193.865
9	Meghalaya	1	200	140
10	Rajasthan	1	200	140
11	Sikkim	1	140	98
12	Tamil Nadu	5	900	630
13	Telangana	47	436.6	305.62
14	Uttar Pradesh	1	8	5.6
15	Uttarakhand	2	123.88	86.716
16	West Bengal	3	104	72.8
17	Chandigarh	1	19.16	13.412
	Total	97	5714.1	3999.87

**Annexure referred to in reply to part (c) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No.99
due for answer on 15.12.2022 regarding 'Increase in Forest Cover'**

**Details of funds released during 2021-22 to 2022-23 under the scheme National Mission
for a Green India**

(Rupees in Crore)

Sl. No.	States	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23
1	Andhra Pradesh	-	2.02	-
2	Arunachal Pradesh	-	13.43	-
3	Chhattisgarh	1.66	6.12	-
4	Haryana	-	9.55	-
5	Himachal Pradesh	17.09	-	-
6	Jammu & Kashmir	25.73	-	-
7	Karnataka	2.35	4.45	-
8	Kerala	-	-	-
9	Madhya Pradesh	-	18.29	17.93
10	Maharashtra	-	-	-
11	Manipur	6.74	9.93	5.45
12	Mizoram	2.99	29.86	36.27
13	Odisha	26.01	17.74	-
14	Punjab	-	3.32	2.7393
15	Sikkim	2.19	7.77	6.57
16	Uttarakhand	27.89	33.99	-
17	West Bengal	-	-	0.76
	Total	112.65	156.46	69.72

**Annexure referred to in reply to part (c) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 99
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Utilisation of CAMPA funds by States/UTs for the last three years (2019-2020 to 2021-22)

(Rupees in Crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.01	0.01	0.00
2	Andhra Pradesh	98.47	60.96	121.10
3	Arunachal Pradesh	3.19	0.00	0.00
4	Assam	32.02	22.65	21.48
5	Bihar	125.39	183.20	0.13
6	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	5.14
7	Chhattisgarh	429.21	651.64	855.55
8	Dadar& Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Delhi	0.03	0.03	4.15
10	Goa	6.86	23.39	17.75
11	Gujarat	118.5	169.85	168.79
12	Haryana	60.68	125.73	213.50
13	Himachal Pradesh	88.50	119.48	94.77
14	Jammu & Kashmir	113.51	112.61	127.74
15	Jharkhand	223.57	214.93	240.99
16	Karnataka	104.14	170.48	299.99
17	Kerala	0	10.88	16.03
18	Madhya Pradesh	343.15	475.64	561.09
19	Maharashtra	151.52	236.58	422.43
20	Manipur	30.97	27.79	25.09
21	Meghalaya	0.00	22.01	36.40
22	Mizoram	0.00	25.99	17.65
23	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00
24	Odisha	556.34	674.99	843.12
25	Punjab	64.73	128.59	167.82
26	Rajasthan	116.44	192.37	182.13
27	Sikkim	39.46	54.84	70.00
28	Tamil Nadu	0.56	0.00	0.00
29	Telangana	260.60	378.35	488.98
30	Tripura	17.38	17.92	24.22
31	Uttar Pradesh	180.69	252.19	362.06
32	Uttarakhand	124.00	250.01	375.42
33	West Bengal	13.53	8.25	12.92
	Total	3303.45	4611.36	5776.44