

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 2612
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.03.2023

Forest land in Goa

2612 SHRI LUIZINHO JOAQUIM FALEIRO:

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

- (a) the total area owned by Forest Department in the State of Goa, the taluka-wise details of ownership in the State;
- (b) the total area illegally encroached upon by the encroachers, as-on-date, the taluka-wise details thereof;
- (c) the action taken by Government to stop this land grabbing by the anti-social elements; and
- (d) the details of land restored to the Forest Department?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Forest Survey of India (FSI), Dehradun, an organization under the Ministry carries out the assessment of forest cover biennially since 1987 and the findings are published in India State of Forest Report (ISFR). As per latest ISFR 2021, the Recorded Forest Area in the State of Goa is 1,271 square kilometre which is 34.33% of the total geographical area of the State. The details are given in **Annexure-I**. However, the taluka-wise details are not collated by the Ministry.
- (b) to (d) As per the information provided by State Forest Department of Goa, there is no recorded forest encroachment. However, the protection and management of forests is primarily the responsibility of concerned State Government and UT Administration. The various actions to remove encroachment are taken as per the provisions of Indian Forest Act, 1927, Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and rules made there under, and also under State Specific Acts and Rules.

Annexure-I

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2612 due for answer on 23.03.2023 regarding 'Forest land in Goa'

Recorded Forest Area (RFA) in Goa as per ISFR 2021

RFA (in different categories)	Area (in square kilometre)
Reserve Forest	119
Protected Forests*	755
Unclassed Forest	397
Total	1,271

Source: Goa State Forest Department

*Unclassed Forest includes all Forest other than Reserve Forest and Protected Forest as reported by State Forest Department.
