

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 3892**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.04.2023**

**Efforts to increase forest cover in Haryana**

3892. SHRI DEEPENDER SINGH HOODA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the State of Haryana possesses the lowest forest cover across the country on the basis of latest assessment on percentage of forest cover;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any special efforts have been made by Government to increase the forest cover in the States having the minimum forest cover, including in the State of Haryana, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether it is also a fact that North Eastern States are witnessing the fastest decline in forest cover, if so, 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 biennially, since 1987 and the findings are published in India State of Forest Report (ISFR). As per latest ISFR 2021, the total forest cover in Haryana is 1603 square kilometer which is 3.63% of the geographical area (44,212 square kilometer) of the State. Haryana State has the lowest percentage of forest cover as compared to other States (excluding Union Territories). The details of forest cover in various states and UTs, including Haryana are given in **Annexure-I**.
- (c) Conservation and Protection of forests is primarily the responsibility of concerned State Government and UT Administration 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.

In order to restore ecosystems and increase the forest cover in the country, afforestation and tree plantation activities are undertaken by States/UTs. The Ministry provides financial assistance to States/UTs under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely Green India Mission to support and supplement the efforts of States and Union Territories.

The Ministry is implementing Nagar Van Yojana (NVY) since the year 2020 which envisages creation of 600 Nagar Vans and 400 Nagar Vatika in the country during the period 2020-21 to 2024-25 under the funds available under National Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAMPA). The Nagar Van Yojana aims to enhance the green cover in the urban and peri-urban areas including biological diversity, provide ecological benefits and improve the quality of life of city dwellers.

The Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAMPA fund) are being utilized by States/UTs for taking up compensatory afforestation 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.

Afforestation activities are also taken up under various programmes and schemes of line Ministry such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, National Bamboo Mission, Sub-Mission on Agroforestry etc. and under schemes of State Government/UT Administration through different departments, Non-Government Organizations, Civil Society, Corporate bodies etc. The multi departmental efforts have yielded good results in conserving and enhancing forest cover in the country.

- (d) As per latest ISFR 2021, the forest cover of North Eastern States has shown an overall decrease of 1020 square kilometer as compared to the previous assessment i.e. ISFR 2019. The details of change in forest cover in North Eastern States from ISFR 2017 to ISFR 2021 are given in **Annexure II**. The loss in forest cover in North Eastern States may be attributed mainly to natural calamities, anthropogenic pressure and developmental activities.

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## Annexure-I

Annexure referred to in reply to part (b) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3892 due for answer on 06.04.2023 regarding 'Efforts to increase forest cover in Haryana'

## State/UTs details of Forest Cover as per ISFR 2021

(Area in square kilometer)

| S. No.       | State/UT                             | Geo-graphical Area (GA) | Total Forest Cover | Percent age of Geogra phical area | Change in Forest Cover w.r.t ISFR 2019 | Change Percentage w.r.t. 2019 assessment | Scrub         |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|---------------|
| 1            | Andhra Pradesh                       | 1,62,968                | 29,784             | 18.28                             | 647                                    | 2.22                                     | 8,276         |
| 2            | Arunachal Pradesh                    | 83,743                  | 66,431             | 79.33                             | -257                                   | -0.39                                    | 797           |
| 3            | Assam                                | 78,438                  | 28,312             | 36.09                             | -15                                    | -0.05                                    | 228           |
| 4            | Bihar                                | 94,163                  | 7,381              | 7.84                              | 75                                     | 1.03                                     | 236           |
| 5            | Chhattisgarh                         | 1,35,192                | 55,717             | 41.21                             | 106                                    | 0.19                                     | 615           |
| 6            | Delhi                                | 1,483                   | 195.00             | 13.15                             | -0.44                                  | -0.23                                    | 0.38          |
| 7            | Goa                                  | 3,702                   | 2,244              | 60.62                             | 7                                      | 0.31                                     | 0             |
| 8            | Gujarat                              | 1,96,244                | 14,926             | 7.61                              | 69                                     | 0.46                                     | 2,828         |
| <b>9</b>     | <b>Haryana</b>                       | <b>44,212</b>           | <b>1,603</b>       | <b>3.63</b>                       | <b>1</b>                               | <b>0.06</b>                              | <b>159</b>    |
| 10           | Himachal Pradesh                     | 55,673                  | 15,443             | 27.73                             | 9                                      | 0.06                                     | 322           |
| 11           | Jharkhand                            | 79,716                  | 23,721             | 29.76                             | 110                                    | 0.47                                     | 584           |
| 12           | Karnataka                            | 1,91,791                | 38,730             | 20.19                             | 155                                    | 0.40                                     | 4,611         |
| 13           | Kerala                               | 38,852                  | 21,253             | 54.70                             | 109                                    | 0.52                                     | 30            |
| 14           | Madhya Pradesh                       | 3,08,252                | 77,493             | 25.14                             | 11                                     | 0.01                                     | 5,457         |
| 15           | Maharashtra                          | 3,07,713                | 50,798             | 16.51                             | 20                                     | 0.04                                     | 4,247         |
| 16           | Manipur                              | 22,327                  | 16,598             | 74.34                             | -249                                   | -1.48                                    | 1,215         |
| 17           | Meghalaya                            | 22,429                  | 17,046             | 76.00                             | -73                                    | -0.43                                    | 663           |
| 18           | Mizoram                              | 21,081                  | 17,820             | 84.53                             | -186                                   | -1.03                                    | 1             |
| 19           | Nagaland                             | 16,579                  | 12,251             | 73.90                             | -235                                   | -1.88                                    | 824           |
| 20           | Odisha                               | 1,55,707                | 52,156             | 33.50                             | 537                                    | 1.04                                     | 4,924         |
| 21           | Punjab                               | 50,362                  | 1,847              | 3.67                              | -2                                     | -0.11                                    | 34            |
| 22           | Rajasthan                            | 3,42,239                | 16,655             | 4.87                              | 25                                     | 0.15                                     | 4,809         |
| 23           | Sikkim                               | 7,096                   | 3,341              | 47.08                             | -1                                     | -0.03                                    | 296           |
| 24           | Tamil Nadu                           | 1,30,060                | 26,419             | 20.31                             | 55                                     | 0.21                                     | 758           |
| 25           | Telangana                            | 1,12,077                | 21,214             | 18.93                             | 632                                    | 3.07                                     | 2,911         |
| 26           | Tripura                              | 10,486                  | 7,722              | 73.64                             | -4                                     | -0.05                                    | 33            |
| 27           | Uttar Pradesh                        | 2,40,928                | 14,818             | 6.15                              | 12                                     | 0.08                                     | 563           |
| 28           | Uttarakhand                          | 53,483                  | 24,305             | 45.44                             | 2                                      | 0.01                                     | 392           |
| 29           | West Bengal                          | 88,752                  | 16,832             | 18.96                             | -70                                    | -0.41                                    | 156           |
| 30           | A & N Islands                        | 8,249                   | 6,744              | 81.75                             | 1                                      | 0.01                                     | 1             |
| 31           | Chandigarh                           | 114                     | 22.88              | 20.07                             | 0.85                                   | 3.86                                     | 0.38          |
| 32           | Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu | 602                     | 227.75             | 37.83                             | 0.10                                   | 0.04                                     | 4.85          |
| 33           | Jammu & Kashmir                      | 2,22,236                | 21,387             | 39.15                             | 29                                     | 0.14                                     | 284           |
| 34           | Ladakh                               |                         | 2,272              | 1.35                              | 18                                     | 0.80                                     | 279           |
| 35           | Lakshadweep                          | 30                      | 27.10              | 90.33                             | 0.00                                   | 0.00                                     | 0.00          |
| 36           | Puducherry                           | 490                     | 53.30              | 10.88                             | 0.89                                   | 1.70                                     | 0.00          |
| <b>Total</b> |                                      | <b>32,87,469</b>        | <b>7,13,789</b>    | <b>21.71</b>                      | <b>1,540</b>                           | <b>0.22</b>                              | <b>46,539</b> |

**Annexure-II**

**Annexure referred to in reply to part (d) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3892 due for answer on 06.04.2023 regarding 'Efforts to increase forest cover in Haryana'**

**Forest Cover in North Eastern States from ISFR 2017 to ISFR 2021****(Area in square kilometer)**

| <b>State</b>      | <b>ISFR<br/>2017<br/>(a)</b> | <b>ISFR<br/>2019<br/>(b)</b> | <b>ISFR<br/>2021<br/>(c)</b> | <b>Change in<br/>Forest Cover<br/>w.r.t. ISFR<br/>2019<br/>(c-b)</b> | <b>Change in<br/>Forest Cover<br/>w.r.t. ISFR<br/>2017<br/>(c-a)</b> |
|-------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--|--|
| Arunachal Pradesh | 66,964                       | 66,688                       | 66,431                       | -257   | -533   |
| Assam             | 28,105                       | 28,327                       | 28,312                       | -15  | 207  |
| Manipur           | 17,346                       | 16,847                       | 16,598                       | -249   | -748   |
| Meghalaya         | 17,146                       | 17,119                       | 17,046                       | -73  | -100   |
| Mizoram           | 18,186                       | 18,006                       | 17,820                       | -186   | -366   |
| Nagaland          | 12,489                       | 12,486                       | 12,251                       | -235   | -238   |
| Sikkim            | 3,344                        | 3,342                        | 3,341                        | -1   | -3   |
| Tripura           | 7,726                        | 7,726                        | 7,722                        | -4   | -4   |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>1,71,306</b>              | <b>1,70,541</b>              | <b>1,69,521</b>              | <b>-1,020</b>  | <b>-1,785</b>  |