

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 2444
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.08.2023

Decline in forest area

2444. SHRI RAGHAV CHADHA:

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

- (a) whether there is a continuous decline in forest areas in the country and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) the steps taken/schemes made by Government regarding forest cover in the country during the last three years and the progress made in the regard; and
- (c) the details of the budget allocated to the States during the last three years and the current year, plan-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) As per India State of Forest Report (ISFR) published by Forest Survey of India (FSI), there is an increase in recorded forest area from 7,67,419 square kilometer in 2017 to 7,75,288 square kilometer in 2021. Similarly, there is also increase in forest cover in the country during the same period. FSI, Dehradun carries out the assessment of forest cover biennially, since 1987 by using remote sensing techniques. The analysis of forest cover and changes thereof are further extensively validated through Joint verification with the State Forest Departments and ground truthing.

(b) & (c) The Ministry provides technical and financial assistance to States/UTs under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely, Green India Mission (GIM), Forest Fire Prevention and Management Scheme, CAMPA, Nagar Van Yojana and other schemes of line ministries to increase the forest and tree cover of the country as per the mandate of National Forest Policy. These reforestation programmes alongwith conservation measures, afforestation activities and enhanced protection measures in plantation as well as in traditional forest areas have resulted in increase in forest and tree cover over the country.

Green India Mission which was initiated during 2015-16, aims at protection, restoring and enhancing India's forest cover by restoring degraded forest lands and undertaking afforestation activities in the forest and non-forest areas. The Ministry has also implemented Centrally Sponsored Scheme, National Afforestation Programme (NAP) for regeneration of degraded

forests. At present, the NAP scheme is merged with Green India Mission. The details of funds released during the last three years, including the current year to various State/UTs under GIM is given in **Annexure-I**. The details of funds released during 2019-20 to 2021-22 under NAP are given in **Annexure-II**.

The Ministry is implementing the Nagar Van Yojana which envisages creation of 600 Nagar Vans and 400 Nagar Vatika in the country during the period 2020-21 to 2026-27. The Nagar Van Yojana aims at enhancing the greencover in the urban and peri-urban areas and augmenting biological diversity. The details of fund released during the last three years and current year to various State/UTs under Nagar Van Yojana is given in **Annexure-III**.

The Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAMPA) is being utilized by States/UTs as per provisions of Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016 (CAF Act) and CAF Rules, 2018, for taking up compensatory afforestation for compensating the loss of forest & tree cover undergone due to the diversion of forest land for developmental projects. The details of funds allocated as per the approved Annual Plan of Operations (APO), during the last three years, including the current year to various State/UTs under CAMPA is given in **Annexure-IV**.

Afforestation activities are also taken up under various programmes and schemes of line Ministries 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. The multidepartmental efforts have yielded good results in conserving and enhancing the forest cover in the country.

Annexure I

Annexure referred to in reply to part (c) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2444 due for answer on 10.08.2023 regarding 'Decline in forest Area'.

State/UT wise details of funds released under Green India Mission.

(Rs. in Crore)

Sl. No.	State/UT	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24 (till date)
1	Andhra Pradesh	-	2.02	-	-
2	Arunachal Pradesh	-	13.43	21.28	-
3	Chhattisgarh	1.66	6.12	-	-
4	Haryana	-	9.55	-	-
5	Himachal Pradesh	17.09	-	-	-
6	Jammu & Kashmir (UT)	25.73	-	6.49	-
7	Karnataka	2.35	4.45	2.93	-
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	8.4756	-
14	Punjab	-	3.32	2.7393	-
15	Sikkim	2.19	7.77	6.57	-
16	Uttarakhand	27.89	33.99	28.40	-
17	West Bengal	-	-	0.76	0.76
18	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-	5.43
	Total	112.65	156.47	137.29	6.19

**Annexure referred to in reply to part (c) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2444
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Details of State/UT wise funds released under National Afforestation Programme

(Rs in Crore)				
S. No.	State	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22
1	Andhra Pradesh	-	-	-
2	Bihar	1.18	0.80	4.30
3	Chhattisgarh	5.71	9.88	5.56
4	Goa	-	-	-
5	Gujarat	-	-	-
6	Haryana	-	-	-
7	Himachal Pradesh	0.52	0.57	-
8	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-
9	Jharkhand	-	-	-
10	Karnataka	-	-	9.01
11	Kerala	-	-	-
12	Madhya Pradesh	-	0.57	-
13	Maharashtra	-	-	-
14	Odisha	8.45	13.67	7.77
15	Punjab	-	-	-
16	Rajasthan	-	-	-
17	Tamil Nadu	-	-	-
18	Telangana	-	-	-
19	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-
20	Uttarakhand	-	1.06	-
21	West Bengal	-	-	-
22	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-
23	Assam	-	-	-
24	Manipur	-	-	-
25	Meghalaya	-	-	-
26	Mizoram	-	7.40	5.14
27	Nagaland	2.35	4.27	10.65
28	Sikkim	-	0.88	-
29	Tripura	3.76	1.33	3.75
	Total	21.97	40.43	46.18

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Details of State/UT wise funds released under Nagar Van Yojana

S.No.	State/UT	(Rs.in lakh)			
		FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24 (till date)
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	-	56.35	-	-
2	Andhra Pradesh	-	117.4	358.61	930.916
3	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	56	-
4	Assam	-	169.61	-	-
5	Bihar	143.71	100.776	137.61	-
6	Chandigarh	-	-	13.412	-
7	Chhattisgarh	-	830.77	-	-
8	Goa	-	143.71	-	-
9	Gujarat	-	297.5	203	-
10	Haryana	-	449.02	-	-
11	Himachal Pradesh	-	166.46	319.4	-
12	Jammu & Kashmir	-	138.46	476.28	-
13	Jharkhand	87.71	236.52	1762.803	-
14	Karnataka	216.02	140.35	-	260.44
15	Kerala	-	1,055.28	-	-
16	Madhya Pradesh	216.86	1,014.06	1175.1	-
17	Maharashtra	158.06	156.86	193.87	-
18	Manipur	-	143.71	-	-
19	Meghalaya	-	-	242.76	-
20	Mizoram	-	284.06	1766.1	-
21	Nagaland	-	129.29	-	402.36
22	Orissa	-	2,030.83	-	-
23	Punjab	-	262.08	-	-
24	Rajasthan	-	444.36	848.12	72.8
25	Sikkim	-	-	390.964	-
26	Tamil Nadu	-	593.11	630	-
27	Telangana	-	-	585.62	-
28	Tripura	-	353.36	-	-
29	Uttar Pradesh	-	1,968.30	5.6	-
30	Uttarakhand	111.3	168.7	86.72	-
31	West Bengal	-	102.06	72.8	158.07
	TOTAL	933.66	11552.99	9324.77	1824.586

**Annexure referred to in reply to part (c) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2444
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**Details of funds allocated as per the approved Annual Plan of Operations (APO) under
CAMPA**

Sl. No.	States/UTs	(Rs. in Crore)			
		2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24 (Till date)
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	2.13	0.00	10.97	6.70
2.	Andhra Pradesh	330.82	325.00	224.09	227.82
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	155.46	240.85	196.9	-
4.	Assam	88.34	95.01	162.57	70.69
5.	Bihar	239.47	106.84	115.42	-
6.	Chandigarh	2.26	3.6	1.56	1.54
7.	Chhattisgarh	1346.92	2465.67	618.91	471.36
8.	Dadar Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
9.	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
10.	Delhi	19.55	16.15	33.93	-
11.	Goa	32.68	21.17	41.00	31.28
12.	Gujarat	240.69	200.00	205.40	250.20
13.	Haryana	203.95	317.51	270.68	-
14.	Himachal Pradesh	158.38	138.1	190.23	249.78
15.	Jammu Kashmir	184.83	241.79	312.69	272.65
16.	Jharkhand	376.56	437.62	764.82	-
17.	Karnataka	212.94	321.09	270.98	258.66
18.	Kerala	15.79	25.13	17.26	9.06
19.	Ladakh	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.16
20.	Madhya Pradesh	860.96	713.46	899.84	949.80
21.	Maharashtra	599.32	688.27	708.11	593.06
22.	Manipur	27.79	25.09	22.59	-
23.	Meghalaya	33.97	36.4	26.67	26.74
24.	Mizoram	32.66	18.08	16.74	14.17
25.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
26.	Odisha	773.39	901.03	1191.31	804.31
27.	Punjab	177.85	218.07	203.01	259.39
28.	Rajasthan	280.69	286.7	249.19	288.18
29.	Sikkim	66.90	93.47	92.85	47.22
30.	Tamil Nadu	66.63	0.00	38.22	-
31.	Telangana	483.78	752.71	772.65	-
32.	Tripura	21.51	39.09	52.90	74.59
33.	Uttar Pradesh	442.01	586.9	344.08	77.18
34.	Uttarakhand	353.64	726.88	320.20	293.24
35.	West Bengal	74.00	58.3	52.83	64.27
	Total	7905.87	10,099.98	8428.63	5362.05