

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 829**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2023

**India's forest Cover**

829. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA:

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

- (a) the percentage of natural vegetation which have been diverted for development projects in the past five years; and
- (b) the details of compensatory afforestation which have been undertaken in the last five years by National Highways Authority of India, Border Road Organisation (BRO) and State PWDs, region-wise details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) & (b) The proposals for diversion of forest land for non-forestry purpose are considered under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 on case to case basis as per the Rules and Guidelines made thereunder. As per the information available, a total of 90001.15 hectare of forest land has been approved for non-forest use under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 during 01.01.2018 to 31.03.2023. The State/UT-wise details are given in **Annexure-I**.

The Compensatory Afforestation against various forest diversion proposals is carried out by the State Forest Departments and not by the user agencies such as NHAI, BRO and State PWDs. Further, land is a state subject and the User agency wise record of Compensatory Afforestation carried out in the field is not maintained at the level of the Ministry.

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## Annexure

Annexure referred to part (a) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 829 due for reply on 27.07.2023 regarding 'India's forest cover' asked by Shri Vivek K. Tankha, Hon'ble Member of Parliament(RS)

Category : All Categories		During the Period : 01/04/2018 to 31/03/2023
S. No.	STATE / UT	Area Approved (in Ha.)
1	Andaman and Nicobar	100.00
2	Andhra Pradesh	1946.61
3	Arunachal Pradesh	7448.34
4	Assam	1357.17
5	Bihar	1852.75
6	Chandigarh	0.46
7	Chhattisgarh	2802.38
8	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	18.41
9	Daman and Diu	2.43
10	Delhi	85.05
11	Goa	280.83
12	Gujarat	8064.76
13	Haryana	2161.49
14	Himachal Pradesh	2512.65
15	Jammu and Kashmir	450.65
16	Jharkhand	4416.55
17	Karnataka	1585.45
18	Kerala	145.97
19	Madhya Pradesh	19730.36
20	Maharashtra	2137.89
21	Manipur	603.75
22	Meghalaya	33.97
23	Mizoram	392.89
24	Orissa	13304.79
25	Punjab	2391.57
26	Rajasthan	2972.12
27	Sikkim	124.87
28	Tamil Nadu	135.63
29	Telangana	3706.52
30	Tripura	1153.65
31	Uttar Pradesh	4090.64
32	Uttarakhand	3368.89
33	West Bengal	621.68
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>90001.15</b>

Source : <https://parivesh.nic.in>