

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1331
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.07.2025

Clearance of over 8500 hectares of forests

1331. SHRI HARIS BEERAN:
SMT. RANJEET RANJAN:
SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH:
SHRI NEERAJ DANGI:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has approved the clearing of over 8500 hectares of forests in just six months;
- (b) the total forest area diverted for non-forest use under the Forest (Conservation) Act since Financial Year 2021, State-wise and project-wise;
- (c) the number of proposals involving diversion of forest land in Scheduled areas and Fifth Schedule districts during this period; and
- (d) State-wise number of compensatory afforestation projects approved and the corresponding area afforested since Financial Year 2021-22?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

- (a) to (c) During the period from 01.01.2025 to 30.06.2025, the Central Government has accorded the prior approval for the diversion of 12,324.32 ha of forest land under the provisions of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.

Further, during the period 01.04.2021 to 31.03.2025, Central Government has accorded the prior approval for the diversion of 78,135.84 ha of forest land for various non-forestry purposes. The State/UT wise detail is enclosed at **Annexure-I**.

'Land' is a State subject. The forest areas and the legal boundaries thereof are determined and maintained by the concerned State Government/UT Administration. Accordingly, the detail of proposals involving diversion of forest land in Scheduled areas and Fifth Schedule districts are not maintained at the level of this ministry.

- (d) The Compensatory Afforestation Fund is utilized by the States/UTs for compensating the loss of forest and its ecological services, due to diversion of forest land for various non-forest purposes as per the provisions of Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016. The Compensatory Afforestation approved by the National Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority for the Period of 2021-22 to 2024-25 is attached at **Annexure-II**.

Annexure-I		
Annexure referred to the Part (b) of the RSUQ No. 1331 due for answer on 31.07.2025 asked by Shri Haris Beeran, Smt. Ranjeet Ranjan, Shri Digvijaya Singh and Shri Neeraj Dangi regarding “Clearance of over 8500 hectares of forests”.		
Category : All Categories		During the Period : 01.04.2021 to 31.03.2025
S. No.	STATE / UTs	Area Approved (in Ha.)
1	Andaman and Nicobar	104.14
2	Andhra Pradesh	1020.63
3	Arunachal Pradesh	6561.47
4	Assam	722.24
5	Bihar	631.31
6	Chandigarh	0.29
7	Chhattisgarh	4092.01
8	Dadar & Nagar Haveli & Daman and Diu	53.36
9	Delhi	118.59
10	Goa	182.91
11	Gujarat	4959.00
12	Haryana	1035.08
13	Himachal Pradesh	1429.84
14	Jammu and Kashmir	868.19
15	Jharkhand	4431.91
16	Karnataka	1385.38
17	Kerala	174.95
18	Ladakh	0.94
19	Madhya Pradesh	17393.65
20	Maharashtra	3603.62
21	Manipur	1720.11
22	Meghalaya	33.46
23	Mizoram	433.99
24	Odisha	11033.08
25	Punjab	1600.31
26	Rajasthan	4180.06
27	Sikkim	507.87
28	Tamil Nadu	98.38
29	Telangana	670.86
30	Tripura	741.97
31	Uttar Pradesh	5480.43
32	Uttarakhand	2365.28
33	West Bengal	500.53
Grand Total		78135.84

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

Annexure referred to the Part (d) of the RSUQ No. 1331 due for answer on 31.07.2025 asked by Shri Haris Beeran, Smt. Ranjeet Ranjan, Shri Digvijaya Singh and Shri Neeraj Dangi regarding “Clearance of over 8500 hectares of forests”.

Compensatory Afforestation Approved by National Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority for the period FY 2021-22 to 2024-25

S. No.	State/UT	2021-22		2022-23		2023-24		2024-25	
		Target (in Ha)	Achievement (in Ha)	Target (in Ha)	Achievement (in Ha)	Target (in Ha)	Achievement (in Ha)	Target (in Ha)	Achievement (in Ha)
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	0	56.16	36.56	181.47	95.47	237.63	132.03
2	Andhra Pradesh	1326.32	485.11	2276.75	708.54	1827.75	311.12	8663.46	3471.88
3	Arunachal Pradesh	12194	11608.44	4459.16	4458.67	3001.34	2858.42	21478.03	20719.46
4	Assam	196.1	114.5	467.45	0	528.27	382.56	1191.82	1149.64
5	Bihar	384	0	0	0	1334.09	1321.09	3568.68	3171.67
6	Chandigarh	0.79	0.79	0.14	0.18	-	-	0.93	0.97
7	Chhattisgarh	1404.687	1541.69	460.47	465.2	770.242	467.74	7941.59	7039.23
8	Delhi	24.49	23.02	71.95	72.06	45.17	37.34	190.91	179.96
9	Goa	200	200	420	299	470	470	1330.00	1209.00
10	Gujarat	3646.72	3646.72	4584.53	4584.53	2004.94	2004.94	14103.32	14103.32
11	Haryana	1913.2961	1870.22	2306.12	1608.86	Nil	Nil	5803.08	5012.91
12	Himachal Pradesh	1032	899	973	885	1315	888	4913.00	4073.00
13	Jammu & Kashmir	322	306	1499.54	1360.71	272.43	262.08	8097.97	6434.79
14	Jharkhand	3713.52	3324.86	6327.687	3202.83	3,807.74	2789.84	21443.95	15739.27
15	Karnataka	516.81	522.77	715.01	715.01	718.4	720.29	2775.12	2761.26
16	Kerala	60.632	42.84	151.5	0	170.3	117.26	433.06	171.80
17	Ladakh	-	-	-	-	-	-	21107.68	21746.82
18	Madhya Pradesh	3924.1	3585.66	16365	3457.22	1416	5301.66	5730.62	4316.74
19	Maharashtra	438.18	218.351	246.405	182.27	546.384	544.384	1759.84	666.94
20	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	514.76	114.56
21	Meghalaya	Nil	Nil	367.89	114.56	146.87	0	2046.74	2570.24
22	Mizoram	1303.78	1303.78	508.96	29.96	Nil	Nil	0	0
23	Odisha	3610.19	3501.45	6130.81	4632.86	1962.91	1628.66	19540.451	16964.78
24	Punjab	692.57	644.995	864.411	800.38	993.873	940.38	4471.94	4019.72
25	Rajasthan	1757.52	808.52	700.352	444.79	2003.36	1365.4	9862.03	7377.15
26	Sikkim	183.98	183.98	94.67	94.67	104.06	53.19	660.39	609.52
27	Tamil Nadu	0	0	146.38	82.57	113.82	0	262.39	84.76
28	Telangana	3330.77	2490.07	2799.41	2052.71	918.771	551.12	17961.54	13686.57
29	Tripura	445.54	391.86	685.14	566.4	810.29	669.85	2608.11	2295.23
30	Uttar Pradesh	1103.64	1091.43	1631.9	1604.68	1414.99	1288.6	6096.70	5877.16
31	Uttarakhand	2817.93	2738.62	2415	2448.71	2200	1697.24	13682.93	11812.89
32	West Bengal	782.89	282.03	397.54	106.17	321.65	139.92	1911.74	748.25