

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 703**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.02.2026

**Diversion of forest-land**

703. SHRI SANJAY SINGH:

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

- (a) the area of forest land diverted for non-forestry purposes in the country during the last five years, State-wise;
- (b) the forest land approved for diversion between 1st April, 2021 and 31st March, 2025, year-wise and State-wise;
- (c) the details of such diversions purpose-wise, including infrastructure, mining, power, irrigation, roads, railways, defence and industrial projects; and
- (d) the number of proposals approved, rejected and pending during the above period?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (d) During last five financial years from 2020-21 to 2024-25, an area of 97,050.30 hectares of forest land has been diverted for non-forestry purposes under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. The State wise and year wise detail for the forest area diverted is enclosed at **Annexure-I**. The category wise detail of approvals granted for diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes and the proposals rejected under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 is enclosed at **Annexure-II and Annexure-III**, respectively.

The process of grant of approval under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 is a continuous one. The Central Government, following the prescribed statutory approval process, takes prompt decisions on proposals that are complete in all respects.

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**Annexure-I**

**Annexure referred to in the reply of part (a) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 703 asked by Shri Sanjay Singh regarding Diversion of forest land**

| <b>Statement Showing State wise / Year wise area approved (in Ha.) for use of forest land for non-forestry purpose under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980</b> |                                          |                                                                   |                  |                  |                  |                  |                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Category :- All Category</b>                                                                                                                                                   |                                          | <b>During the last 5 years ( Period 01.04.2020 to 31.03.2025)</b> |                  |                  |                  |                  | <b>Grand Total</b> |
| <b>S. No.</b>                                                                                                                                                                     | <b>State / UTs</b>                       | <b>2020-2021</b>                                                  | <b>2021-2022</b> | <b>2022-2023</b> | <b>2023-2024</b> | <b>2024-2025</b> |                    |
| <b>1</b>                                                                                                                                                                          | Andaman and Nicobar                      | 0                                                                 | 100.00           | 0.00             | 2.98             | 1.16             | <b>104.14</b>      |
| <b>2</b>                                                                                                                                                                          | Andhra Pradesh                           | 782.28                                                            | 302.96           | 162.28           | 149.51           | 405.87           | <b>1802.91</b>     |
| <b>3</b>                                                                                                                                                                          | Arunachal Pradesh                        | 95.366                                                            | 1669.60          | 1105.53          | 1296.45          | 2489.90          | <b>6656.84</b>     |
| <b>4</b>                                                                                                                                                                          | Assam                                    | 1157.353                                                          | 133.43           | 45.42            | 363.00           | 180.40           | <b>1879.59</b>     |
| <b>5</b>                                                                                                                                                                          | Bihar                                    | 481.813                                                           | 145.08           | 467.88           | 10.47            | 7.88             | <b>1113.12</b>     |
| <b>6</b>                                                                                                                                                                          | Chandigarh                               | 0.0468                                                            | 0.05             | 0.00             | 0.00             | 0.24             | <b>0.34</b>        |
| <b>7</b>                                                                                                                                                                          | Chhattisgarh                             | 209.098                                                           | 1474.97          | 476.45           | 1069.26          | 1071.32          | <b>4301.11</b>     |
| <b>8</b>                                                                                                                                                                          | Dadra and Nagar Haveli And Daman And Diu | 1.1525                                                            | 2.56             | 0.00             | 37.97            | 12.84            | <b>54.52</b>       |
| <b>9</b>                                                                                                                                                                          | Delhi                                    | 0                                                                 | 21.75            | 63.30            | 31.87            | 1.67             | <b>118.59</b>      |
| <b>10</b>                                                                                                                                                                         | Goa                                      | 97.65                                                             | 3.81             | 178.19           | 0.81             | 0.11             | <b>280.56</b>      |
| <b>11</b>                                                                                                                                                                         | Gujarat                                  | 1891.104                                                          | 1714.47          | 1474.30          | 537.19           | 1233.05          | <b>6850.11</b>     |
| <b>12</b>                                                                                                                                                                         | Haryana                                  | 363.6131                                                          | 571.92           | 127.97           | 225.60           | 109.59           | <b>1398.69</b>     |
| <b>13</b>                                                                                                                                                                         | Himachal Pradesh                         | 323.1387                                                          | 455.86           | 650.29           | 214.63           | 109.05           | <b>1752.97</b>     |
| <b>14</b>                                                                                                                                                                         | Jammu and Kashmir                        | 1.2                                                               | 262.93           | 186.51           | 126.65           | 292.09           | <b>869.39</b>      |
| <b>15</b>                                                                                                                                                                         | Jharkhand                                | 413.6654                                                          | 771.58           | 879.36           | 1334.84          | 1446.12          | <b>4845.57</b>     |
| <b>16</b>                                                                                                                                                                         | Karnataka                                | 299.7777                                                          | 94.75            | 661.17           | 392.37           | 237.09           | <b>1685.16</b>     |
| <b>17</b>                                                                                                                                                                         | Kerala                                   | 1.198                                                             | 3.90             | 137.19           | 13.06            | 20.80            | <b>176.15</b>      |
| <b>18</b>                                                                                                                                                                         | Ladakh                                   | 0                                                                 | 0.00             | 0.00             | 0.00             | 0.94             | <b>0.94</b>        |
| <b>19</b>                                                                                                                                                                         | Madhya Pradesh                           | 6352.905                                                          | 3492.01          | 2045.71          | 9219.70          | 3236.63          | <b>24346.96</b>    |
| <b>20</b>                                                                                                                                                                         | Maharashtra                              | 113.1021                                                          | 586.93           | 822.68           | 1007.11          | 1186.91          | <b>3716.72</b>     |
| <b>21</b>                                                                                                                                                                         | Manipur                                  | 0                                                                 | 242.13           | 337.12           | 937.20           | 203.67           | <b>1720.11</b>     |
| <b>22</b>                                                                                                                                                                         | Meghalaya                                | 6.55                                                              | 0.00             | 27.39            | 0.02             | 6.05             | <b>40.01</b>       |
| <b>23</b>                                                                                                                                                                         | Mizoram                                  | 0                                                                 | 178.86           | 150.05           | 85.53            | 19.55            | <b>433.99</b>      |
| <b>24</b>                                                                                                                                                                         | Odisha                                   | 1842.858                                                          | 1002.13          | 2748.43          | 3939.93          | 3342.59          | <b>12875.94</b>    |
| <b>25</b>                                                                                                                                                                         | Punjab                                   | 361.058                                                           | 742.20           | 374.81           | 150.52           | 332.77           | <b>1961.36</b>     |
| <b>26</b>                                                                                                                                                                         | Rajasthan                                | 151.4158                                                          | 410.89           | 1096.92          | 1699.20          | 973.05           | <b>4331.48</b>     |
| <b>27</b>                                                                                                                                                                         | Sikkim                                   | 0                                                                 | 20.20            | 104.67           | 87.69            | 295.32           | <b>507.87</b>      |

|                    |               |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |
|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>28</b>          | Tamil Nadu    | 11.10365        | 17.59           | 46.65           | 23.36           | 10.61           | <b>109.32</b>   |
| <b>29</b>          | Telangana     | 628.0011        | 209.99          | 181.51          | 239.81          | 39.55           | <b>1298.86</b>  |
| <b>30</b>          | Tripura       | 348.0404        | 248.33          | 254.42          | 36.19           | 203.04          | <b>1090.01</b>  |
| <b>31</b>          | Uttar Pradesh | 1086.707        | 1701.08         | 1124.36         | 2232.82         | 422.18          | <b>6567.14</b>  |
| <b>32</b>          | Uttarakhand   | 1156.894        | 519.66          | 1183.55         | 301.96          | 360.11          | <b>3522.17</b>  |
| <b>33</b>          | West Bengal   | 137.1353        | 87.53           | 267.78          | 130.81          | 14.41           | <b>637.66</b>   |
| <b>Grand Total</b> |               | <b>18314.23</b> | <b>17189.14</b> | <b>17381.88</b> | <b>25898.48</b> | <b>18266.57</b> | <b>97050.30</b> |

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

Annexure referred to in the reply of part (a) to (d) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 703 asked by Shri Sanjay Singh regarding Diversion of forest land

| Purpose wise detail forest area diverted for non-forestry purpose under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 |                                                                                                                        |                                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| All Stat /UT                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                        | During the Period 01.04.2020 to 31.03.2025 |
| S. No.                                                                                                                       | Category                                                                                                               | Area Approved (in hectares)                |
| 1.                                                                                                                           | Airport                                                                                                                | 0.09                                       |
| 2.                                                                                                                           | Canal                                                                                                                  | 80.42                                      |
| 3.                                                                                                                           | Communication Post                                                                                                     | 14.03                                      |
| 4.                                                                                                                           | Defence                                                                                                                | 6041.96                                    |
| 5.                                                                                                                           | Dispensary/Hospital                                                                                                    | 30.76                                      |
| 6.                                                                                                                           | Drinking Water                                                                                                         | 1281.29                                    |
| 7.                                                                                                                           | Encroachments                                                                                                          | 8.38                                       |
| 8.                                                                                                                           | Forest Village Conversion                                                                                              | 1362.71                                    |
| 9.                                                                                                                           | Hydel / Irrigation                                                                                                     | 17434.38                                   |
| 10.                                                                                                                          | Industry                                                                                                               | 150.68                                     |
| 11.                                                                                                                          | Mining / Quarrying                                                                                                     | 18913.64                                   |
| 12.                                                                                                                          | Non-Conventional Source of Energy                                                                                      | 6.92                                       |
| 13.                                                                                                                          | Optical Fibre Cable                                                                                                    | 391.13                                     |
| 14.                                                                                                                          | Others                                                                                                                 | 4422.66                                    |
| 15.                                                                                                                          | Petrol Pump                                                                                                            | 1926.86                                    |
| 16.                                                                                                                          | Pipeline                                                                                                               | 669.38                                     |
| 17.                                                                                                                          | Police Establishment like police stations / outposts / border outposts / towers in sensitive areas (identified by MHA) | 1.73                                       |
| 18.                                                                                                                          | Power Sub Station                                                                                                      | 40.60                                      |
| 19.                                                                                                                          | Power Transmission Line                                                                                                | 13859.31                                   |
| 20.                                                                                                                          | Railway                                                                                                                | 5957.68                                    |
| 21.                                                                                                                          | Rehabilitation                                                                                                         | 1508.55                                    |
| 22.                                                                                                                          | Road                                                                                                                   | 22233.44                                   |
| 23.                                                                                                                          | School / Educational Institution                                                                                       | 85.73                                      |
| 24.                                                                                                                          | Solar Power                                                                                                            | 1.57                                       |
| 25.                                                                                                                          | Sub Station                                                                                                            | 82.58                                      |
| 26.                                                                                                                          | Telecommunication Line                                                                                                 | 0.59                                       |
| 27.                                                                                                                          | Thermal                                                                                                                | 39.05                                      |
| 28.                                                                                                                          | Village Electricity                                                                                                    | 503.27                                     |
| 29.                                                                                                                          | Water / Rainwater Harvesting Structure                                                                                 | 0.61                                       |
| 30.                                                                                                                          | Wind Power                                                                                                             | 0.30                                       |
| <b>Grand Total</b>                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                        | <b>97050.30</b>                            |

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

## Annexure-III

Annexure referred to in the reply of part (a) to (d) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 703 asked by Shri Sanjay Singh regarding Diversion of forest land

| State wise detail of proposals approved for use of land non-forestry purpose and rejected under the under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 |                                          |                                            |                           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Category : All Categories                                                                                                                                  |                                          | During the Period 01.04.2020 to 31.03.2025 |                           |
| S. No.                                                                                                                                                     | STATE/UT                                 | No. of Proposals approved                  | No. of Proposals Rejected |
| 1                                                                                                                                                          | Andaman and Nicobar                      | 26                                         | 0                         |
| 2                                                                                                                                                          | Andhra Pradesh                           | 80                                         | 1                         |
| 3                                                                                                                                                          | Arunachal Pradesh                        | 118                                        | 4                         |
| 4                                                                                                                                                          | Assam                                    | 47                                         | 1                         |
| 5                                                                                                                                                          | Bihar                                    | 293                                        | 0                         |
| 6                                                                                                                                                          | Chandigarh                               | 4                                          | 0                         |
| 7                                                                                                                                                          | Chhattisgarh                             | 74                                         | 1                         |
| 8                                                                                                                                                          | Dadra and Nagar Haveli And Daman And Diu | 33                                         | 2                         |
| 9                                                                                                                                                          | Delhi                                    | 14                                         | 2                         |
| 10                                                                                                                                                         | Goa                                      | 26                                         | 0                         |
| 11                                                                                                                                                         | Gujarat                                  | 1560                                       | 8                         |
| 12                                                                                                                                                         | Haryana                                  | 1424                                       | 1                         |
| 13                                                                                                                                                         | Himachal Pradesh                         | 298                                        | 5                         |
| 14                                                                                                                                                         | Jammu and Kashmir                        | 554                                        | 0                         |
| 15                                                                                                                                                         | Jharkhand                                | 100                                        | 3                         |
| 16                                                                                                                                                         | Karnataka                                | 259                                        | 15                        |
| 17                                                                                                                                                         | Kerala                                   | 129                                        | 4                         |
| 18                                                                                                                                                         | Ladakh                                   | 2                                          | 0                         |
| 19                                                                                                                                                         | Madhya Pradesh                           | 902                                        | 6                         |
| 20                                                                                                                                                         | Maharashtra                              | 320                                        | 6                         |
| 21                                                                                                                                                         | Manipur                                  | 40                                         | 0                         |
| 22                                                                                                                                                         | Meghalaya                                | 13                                         | 0                         |
| 23                                                                                                                                                         | Mizoram                                  | 21                                         | 0                         |
| 24                                                                                                                                                         | Odisha                                   | 167                                        | 5                         |
| 25                                                                                                                                                         | Punjab                                   | 1067                                       | 1                         |
| 26                                                                                                                                                         | Rajasthan                                | 315                                        | 10                        |
| 27                                                                                                                                                         | Sikkim                                   | 67                                         | 7                         |
| 28                                                                                                                                                         | Tamil Nadu                               | 107                                        | 1                         |
| 29                                                                                                                                                         | Telangana                                | 136                                        | 11                        |
| 30                                                                                                                                                         | Tripura                                  | 102                                        | 0                         |
| 31                                                                                                                                                         | Uttar Pradesh                            | 1188                                       | 0                         |
| 32                                                                                                                                                         | Uttarakhand                              | 478                                        | 23                        |
| 33                                                                                                                                                         | West Bengal                              | 62                                         | 3                         |
| <b>Grand Total</b>                                                                                                                                         |                                          | <b>10026</b>                               | <b>120</b>                |

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