

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1325
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.07.2026

Discontinuation of Anavaran Deforestation Alert System

1325 DR. MENAKA GURUSWAMY:

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

- (a) whether the Forest Survey of India has discontinued the Anavaran – Deforestation Alert System;
- (b) the extent of forest cover lost across the country during the last two years;
- (c) the State-wise details of forest cover depletion (in sq. km), identifying the States with the highest losses; and
- (d) remedial measures taken by Government to address deforestation?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): Forest Survey of India releases the Anavaran - Deforestation Alerts from time to time to the concerned States.

As per ISFR 2023, the forest cover of the country is 7,15,342.61 sq. km which is 21.76% of the total geographical area of the country. The forest cover of the country has increased by 156.41 sq. km as compared to the last assessment of ISFR 2021. The State/UT-wise details of change in forest cover between ISFR 2021 and ISFR 2023 are given in the **Annexure** which indicates the gains and losses in forest area in each State/UT.

The Protection and management of forest are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. There are legal frameworks for the protection and management of forest resources of the country which include, the Indian Forest Act 1927, Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980, and the State Forest Acts, Tree Preservation Acts and Rules, etc.,. The State Governments /UT Administrations take appropriate actions to protect forest and tree resources under the provisions made under these Acts/ Rules. Further, the Ministry provides technical and financial support to the States and Union Territories for enhancement of forest and tree cover through Centrally Sponsored Schemes and programmes such as the National Afforestation Programme, the Green India Mission (GIM) and the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA). As a result of the positive interventions 21.76 million hectares of degraded land has been restored covering the period from 2011 to 2020 out of 26 million hectares identified for restoration by 2030.

Annexure referred to in reply of (c) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1325 due for answer on 30.07.2026 regarding 'Discontinuation of Anavaran Deforestation Alert System' asked by Dr. Menaka Guruswamy.

State/UT wise change in forest cover between ISFR 2021 and ISFR 2023					
(Area in Square kilometre)					
S.No.	State /UT	Geographical Area (GA)	Total Forest Cover as per ISFR 2021	Total Forest Cover as per ISFR 2023	Change in forest cover between ISFR 2021 and ISFR 2023
1	Andhra Pradesh	1,62,922.57	30,223.62	30,084.96	-138.66
2	Arunachal Pradesh	83,743.22	65,972.74	65,881.57	-91.17
3	Assam	78,438.00	28,325.31	28,313.55	-11.76
4	Bihar	94,163.00	7,403.26	7,532.45	129.19
5	Chhattisgarh	1,35,192.00	55,830.88	55,811.75	-19.13
6	Delhi	1,483.00	195.36	195.28	-0.08
7	Goa	3,702.00	2,267.22	2,265.72	-1.50
8	Gujarat	1,96,244.00	14,836.57	15,016.64	180.07
9	Haryana	44,212.00	1,628.22	1,614.26	-13.96
10	Himachal Pradesh	55,673.00	15,525.62	15,580.35	54.73
11	Jharkhand	79,716.00	23,706.97	23,765.78	58.81
12	Karnataka	1,91,791.00	39,106.57	39,254.27	147.70
13	Kerala	38,852.00	21,925.94	22,059.36	133.42
14	Madhya Pradesh	3,08,252.11	77,444.98	77,073.44	-371.54
15	Maharashtra	3,07,713.00	50,913.00	50,858.53	-54.47
16	Manipur	22,327.00	16,640.29	16,585.46	-54.83
17	Meghalaya	22,429.00	16,996.84	16,966.84	-30.00
18	Mizoram	21,081.00	17,748.73	17,990.46	241.73
19	Nagaland	16,579.00	12,274.36	12,222.47	-51.89
20	Odisha	1,55,707.00	52,281.67	52,433.56	151.89
21	Punjab	50,362.00	1,846.54	1,846.09	-0.45
22	Rajasthan	3,42,238.99	16,632.01	16,548.21	-83.80

23	Sikkim	7,096.00	3,353.21	3,358.40	5.19
24	Tamil Nadu	1,30,060.00	26,511.18	26,450.22	-60.96
25	Telangana	1,12,122.44	21,279.46	21,179.04	-100.42
26	Tripura	10,486.00	7,680.08	7,584.77	-95.31
27	Uttar Pradesh	2,40,927.56	14,927.37	15,045.80	118.43
28	Uttarakhand	53,483.36	24,326.81	24,303.83	-22.98
29	West Bengal	88,752.00	16,782.11	16,832.33	50.22
30	A & N Islands	8,249.00	6,736.94	6,732.92	-4.02
31	Chandigarh	114.00	23.80	25.00	1.20
32	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	602.00	225.94	225.62	-0.32
33	Jammu & Kashmir	2,22,236.00	21,262.84	21,346.39	83.55
34	Ladakh		2,278.55	2,285.92	7.37
35	Lakshadweep	29.63	27.06	27.06	0.00
36	Puducherry	490.00	44.15	44.31	0.16
Total		32,87,468.88	7,15,186.20	7,15,342.61	156.41