

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2135
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.08.2026

Forest conservation and afforestation in Odisha

2135 SHRI MANAS RANJAN MANGARAJ:

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

- (a) the total forest cover in Odisha, as per the latest assessment;
- (b) the funds released by the Central Government for afforestation and forest conservation in the State, till date; and
- (c) the major projects undertaken and outcomes achieved, so far?

ANSWER

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

(a): Forest Survey of India (FSI), Dehradun, an organization under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, carries out the assessment of forest and tree cover of the country biennially and publishes the findings in the India State of Forest Report (ISFR). The assessment of forest cover is a wall-to-wall mapping exercise based on remote sensing, supported by intensive ground verification and field data from the National Forest Inventory. As per the ISFR 2023, the total forest cover in the State of Odisha is 52,433.56 square kilometer.

(b) and (c): The Central Government provides financial assistance to the States/Union Territories for afforestation, forest conservation and protection under various schemes, including the Green India Mission (GIM), Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats (IDWH), Forest Fire Prevention and Management (FFPM) Scheme, Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes (MISHTI) and Nagar Van Yojana.

During the last five financial years, the Ministry has released to the State of Odisha ₹38.81 crore under the Green India Mission, ₹38.66 crore under the Development of Wildlife Habitats Scheme, ₹16.38 crore under the Forest Fire Prevention and Management Scheme, ₹0.70 crore under MISHTI, and ₹18.71 crore under the Nagar Van Yojana.

The major activities undertaken under these programmes and schemes include afforestation, wildlife habitat improvement, forest fire prevention and management, mangrove plantation, development of urban forests, soil and moisture conservation and eco-development. Further, the nationwide plantation campaign "एक पेड़ माँ के नाम (#Plant4Mother)" is implemented across the country, including in the State of Odisha, for undertaking plantation activities.

As a result of aforesaid activities and measures taken by the State Government under its own schemes, the forest cover of Odisha has increased by 151.89 square kilometre in ISFR 2023 as compared to ISFR 2021.
