

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2147
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.08.2026

Impact of Diversion of forest land

2147 SHRI A. A. RAHIM:

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

- (a) the area of forest land diverted for non-forest purposes and the number of trees approved for felling during the last five years, year-wise and State-wise;
- (b) the sector-wise details of such approvals, including mining, infrastructure, industries and other development projects;
- (c) whether Government has conducted any assessment of the ecological impact of such diversion of forest land and tree felling and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of compensatory afforestation undertaken against such approvals during the same period, including the area afforested and survival rate of plantations, State-wise; and
- (e) the measures taken by Government to minimise diversion of forest land?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): During last five years i.e. from 1.04.2021 to 31.03.2026, an area of 1,05,594.32 ha of forest land has been diverted for non-forest purposes in the country, under the provisions of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. The State-wise and project category wise details are enclosed at **Annexure-I** and **Annexure-II** respectively.

State-wise details of compensatory afforestation carried out during 2019-20 to 2023-24 and survival rate of plantation are enclosed at **Annexure-III**.

Proposals submitted by the States/UTs for diversion of forest land under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 are examined on a case-to-case basis in accordance with the provisions of the Adhiniyam and the Rules and Guidelines made thereunder, with due consideration to their likely impact on environment, forests and wildlife. Diversion of forest land is permitted only in cases where it is unavoidable and site-specific and is restricted to the bare minimum extent of forest land required for the project. Wherever diversion of forest land is unavoidable, prior approval of Central Government for use of such forest land is subject to various conditions and mitigation measures. These include undertaking Compensatory Afforestation (CA) in lieu of the forest land being diverted, payment of Net Present Value (NPV), Soil and Moisture Conservation measures, Wildlife Management Plans, and Catchment Area Treatment (CAT) Plans as applicable.

The Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF) Act, 2016 and the CAF Rules, 2018 provide the statutory framework for mitigating the loss of forest cover and associated ecosystem services arising from the diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes. Afforestation and other mitigation activities are undertaken by the States/UTs in accordance with the approved Annual Plan of Operations (APO), consistent with the provisions of the CAF Act, 2016, the CAF Rules, 2018, and the applicable Rules and Guidelines issued under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.

Annexure referred to in the answer to part (a) to (e) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2147 to be answered on 06.08.2026 regarding 'Impact of Diversion of forest land' by Shri A. A. Rahim.

State wise and year wise detail of forest land approved (in Ha.) for non-forestry purpose under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980							
Category :- All Category		During the Period: 01.04.2021 to 31.03.2026					Grand Total
S. No.	State / UTs	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	
1	Andaman and Nicobar	100.00	0.00	2.98	1.16	0.65	104.79
2	Andhra Pradesh	302.96	162.28	149.51	405.87	294.99	1315.62
3	Arunachal Pradesh	1669.60	1105.53	1296.45	2489.90	3548.53	10110.00
4	Assam	133.43	45.42	363.00	180.40	58.12	780.36
5	Bihar	145.08	467.88	10.47	7.88	9.64	640.94
6	Chandigarh	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.29
7	Chhattisgarh	1474.97	476.45	1069.26	1071.32	2078.36	6170.37
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli And Daman And Diu	2.56	0.00	37.97	12.84	19.54	72.90
9	Delhi	21.75	63.30	31.87	1.67	74.76	193.35
10	Goa	3.81	178.19	0.81	0.11	49.56	232.47
11	Gujarat	1714.47	1474.30	537.19	1233.05	731.19	5690.20
12	Haryana	571.92	127.97	225.60	109.59	211.68	1246.76
13	Himachal Pradesh	455.86	650.29	214.63	109.05	1186.35	2616.18
14	Jammu and Kashmir	262.93	186.51	126.65	292.09	310.39	1178.58
15	Jharkhand	771.58	879.36	1334.84	1446.12	2628.60	7060.50
16	Karnataka	94.75	661.17	392.37	237.09	282.49	1667.87
17	Kerala	3.90	137.19	13.06	20.80	28.56	203.51
18	Ladakh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.94	0.00	0.94
19	Madhya Pradesh	3492.01	2045.71	9219.70	3236.63	6975.81	24969.87
20	Maharashtra	586.93	822.68	1007.11	1186.91	1337.58	4941.20
21	Manipur	242.13	337.12	937.20	203.67	476.39	2196.51
22	Meghalaya	0.00	27.39	0.02	6.05	56.37	89.83
23	Mizoram	178.86	150.05	85.53	19.55	560.63	994.62
24	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.93	3.93
25	Odisha	1002.13	2748.43	3939.93	3342.59	1683.19	12716.27
26	Punjab	742.20	374.81	150.52	332.77	193.98	1794.29
27	Rajasthan	410.89	1096.92	1699.20	973.05	881.42	5061.48
28	Sikkim	20.20	104.67	87.69	295.32	483.63	991.51
29	Tamil Nadu	17.59	46.65	23.36	10.78	26.18	124.56
30	Telangana	209.99	181.51	239.81	39.55	1573.94	2244.79
31	Tripura	248.33	254.42	36.19	203.04	18.58	760.55
32	Uttar Pradesh	1701.08	1124.36	2232.82	422.18	735.88	6216.31
33	Uttarakhand	519.66	1183.55	301.96	360.11	327.57	2692.85
34	West Bengal	87.53	267.78	130.81	14.41	9.59	510.12
Grand Total		17189.14	17381.88	25898.48	18266.74	26858.08	105594.32

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

Annexure-II

Annexure referred to in the answer to part (a) to (e) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2147 to be answered on 06.08.2026 regarding 'Impact of Diversion of forest land' by Shri A. A. Rahim.

Project category wise and year wise detail of forest land approved (in Ha.) for non-forestry purpose under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980							
All State		During the Period: 01.04.2021 to 31.03.2026					Grand Total
S. No.	Category	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	
1	Airport	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.00	0.09
2	Canal	6.88	3.02	2.70	61.93	50.39	124.92
3	Communication Post	0.00	0.00	6.54	7.48	6.05	20.08
4	Defence	421.94	261.26	2288.51	469.16	3518.33	6959.21
5	Dispensary/Hospital	11.02	6.81	10.76	1.06	6.09	35.75
6	Drinking Water	63.46	144.36	183.69	376.17	439.88	1207.57
7	Encroachments	0.00	8.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.38
8	Forest Village Conversion	298.27	394.80	166.00	293.64	55.00	1207.71
9	Hydel / Irrigation	2007.30	2486.40	8113.96	2691.19	3489.26	18788.12
10	Industry	31.96	5.93	25.26	44.27	40.88	148.29
11	Mining / Quarrying	3939.48	3573.97	5611.24	3392.74	7459.29	23976.72
12	Mining of Mineral Oil	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.25	11.25
13	Non-Conventional Source of Energy	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.92	0.24	7.17
14	Optical Fibre Cable/Telecommunication lines	94.41	48.96	65.98	60.69	105.33	375.38
15	Others / Water / Rainwater Harvesting Structure	807.07	708.50	507.91	969.34	530.31	3523.12
16	Petrol Pump	0.00	0.00	1884.98	41.88	72.69	1999.55
17	Pipeline	127.13	162.78	138.56	144.48	215.40	788.35
18	Police and security related establishments	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.73	2.40	4.13
19	Power Transmission Line / Village Electricity	3105.46	3189.44	1960.38	3822.35	1928.81	14006.45
20	Railway	1169.53	1700.60	284.78	1752.98	1849.95	6757.84
21	Rehabilitation	86.90	75.11	833.45	470.59	1501.88	2967.93
22	Road	4966.41	4603.30	3756.01	3609.98	5348.94	22284.65
23	School / Educational Institution	40.87	6.23	12.35	26.25	175.33	261.03
24	Thermal Power	0.00	0.00	0.95	0.00	40.71	41.66
25	Upgradation / Strengthening / Widening of existing bridge by BRO	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20
26	Wind Power/Solar Power/Power sub-station	11.04	2.02	44.46	21.81	9.44	88.78
Grand Total		17189.14	17381.88	25898.48	18266.74	26858.08	105594.32

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

Annexure-III

Annexure referred to in the answer to part (a) to (e) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2147 to be answered on 06.08.2026 regarding 'Impact of Diversion of forest land' by Shri A. A. Rahim.

Status of Compensatory Afforestation (CA) raised under CAMPA funds from 2019-20 to 2023-24

(Area in Ha.)

Sl. No	State/UT	Compensatory Afforestation Achievement	Survival Range (%)
1	Andaman & Nicobar	132.03	60-85
2	Andhra Pradesh	3471.88	80-90
3	Arunachal Pradesh	20719.46	40-75
4	Assam	1149.64	45-90
5	Bihar	3171.67	65-95
6	Chandigarh	0.97	90-100
7	Chhattisgarh	7039.23	80-99
8	Delhi	179.96	91
9	Goa	1209	74-95
10	Gujarat	14103.32	69-80
11	Haryana	5012.91	60-80
12	Himachal Pradesh	4073	54-60
13	Jammu & Kashmir	6434.79	60-66
14	Jharkhand	15739.27	78-98
15	Karnataka	2761.26	75-100
16	Kerala	171.8	45-74
17	Madhya Pradesh	21746.82	88-96
18	Maharashtra	4316.74	73-100
19	Manipur	666.94	55-76
20	Meghalaya	114.56	40-70
21	Mizoram	2570.24	80-95
22	Ladakh	0	0
23	Odisha	16964.78	75-93
24	Punjab	4019.72	54-100
25	Rajasthan	7377.15	55-85
26	Sikkim	609.52	60-71
27	Tamil Nadu	84.76	85-95
28	Telangana	13686.57	69-96
29	Tripura	2295.23	72-90
30	Uttar Pradesh	5877.16	83-95
31	Uttarakhand	11812.89	-
32	West Bengal	748.25	70-100
	Total	178261.52	