

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 542
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.07.2026

Forest cover in M.P.

542. SHRI ASHOK SINGH:

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

- (a) the extent of forest land diverted for non-forest use in the State of Madhya Pradesh during the last five years, year-wise;
- (b) the change in the country's forest cover as recorded in the latest assessment as compared with the preceding assessments;
- (c) whether the forests in the central region of the country, including Madhya Pradesh, have recorded one of the highest declines in forest cover during this period and if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken for afforestation and the amount spent for compensatory afforestation during the last five years, State-wise?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) 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 the findings are published in the India State of Forest Report (ISFR). The forest cover assessment 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 ISFR 2023, the forest and tree cover of the country is 8,27,356.95 square kilometer which is 25.17% of the total geographical area of the country. The forest and tree cover of the country has increased by 1445.81 square kilometer as compared to the last assessment of ISFR 2021.

The increase in the forest and tree cover arise due to natural growth of vegetation, afforestation initiatives, improved protection of plantations and forest areas, increase in trees outside forests, and regeneration in shifting cultivation areas, while negative changes occur due to harvesting of short-rotation plantations, shifting cultivation, encroachment and natural calamities such as storms, floods and landslides.

Diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes is governed in accordance with the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and the rules made thereunder. Accordingly, as per the provisions of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023, compensatory afforestation is stipulated as a mandatory condition. State wise details of amount approved by National Authority CAMPA for compensatory afforestation during the last five years is attached at **Annexure-I**.

During last five years i.e. from 1.04.2021 to 31.03.2026, an area of 24,969.87 ha of forest land has been diverted under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for non-forest use in the State of Madhya Pradesh. Year wise detail is enclosed at **Annexure-II**.

Annexure-I

Annexure referred to in the answer to part (a) to (d) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 542 to be answered on 23.07.2018 regarding 'Forest cover in M.P.' by Shri Ashok Singh.
(Amount in Crores)

Sr. No.	Name of State/UT	Funds approved by National CAMPA for Compensatory Afforestation				
		2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	-	1.15	3.31	5.59	0.38
2	Arunachal Pradesh	36.36	13.64	21.06	12.63	20.63
3	Andhra Pradesh	35.62	19.03	13.11	13.59	8.735
4	Assam	0.96	4.34	3.04	0.37	1.44
5	Bihar	2.94	13.02	12.508	5.495	17.06
6	Chandigarh	0.12	0.0668	NIL	NIL	0.24
7	Chhattisgarh	22.81	46.5	11.31	19.74	54.42
8	Delhi	2.45	14.6	12.33	6.56	7.27
9	Goa	2.5	12.5	8.35	3.691	3.65
10	Gujarat	31.78	48.57	14.25	18.93	30.71
11	Haryana	NIL	100.63	NIL	39.57	48.27
12	Himachal Pradesh	6.38	6.46	17.64	6.27	9.79
13	Jammu & Kashmir	0.58	15.8	6.823	3.31	2.03
14	Jharkhand	16.78	110.47	21.521	11.498	21.4
15	Karnataka	11.48	10.03	6.02	23.87	27.56
16	Kerala	0.56	2.3	2.51	2.3116	1.45
17	Madhya Pradesh	63.38	206.81	48.42	6.94	32.75
18	Maharashtra	5.49	37.9	9.56	15.93	19.61
19	Manipur	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	3.6
20	Meghalaya	1.28	1.71	7.2	0.77	0.08
21	Mizoram	5.04	1.96	NIL	0.86	-
22	Ladakh	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	-
23	Odisha	10.26	11.68	11.3	70.18	112.48
24	Punjab	10.54	14.09	13.69	43.65	74.95
25	Rajasthan	8.65	3.83	10.25	15.77	28.43
26	Sikkim	2.18	2.53	4.33	6.66	25.2
27	Tamil Nadu	NIL	4.93	4.53	8.396	3.99
28	Telangana	6.5	21.89	4.536	59.34	12.46
29	Tripura	4.33	6.85	8.258	2.4	3.5
30	Uttar Pradesh	14.14	17.87	3.57	19.0034	14.55
31	Uttarakhand	10.26	8.71	9.33	6.76	10
32	West Bengal	7.81	4.15	3.48	1.96	0.74
	Total	321.18	764.02	292.24	432.05	597.37

Annexure –II

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) to (d) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 542, to be answered on 23.07.2018 regarding 'Forest cover in M.P.' by Shri Ashok Singh

Statement showing financial year wise area approved (in Ha.) in the State of Madhya Pradesh for use of forest land for non-forestry purpose under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980		
State :- Madhya Pradesh		During the Period : 01.04.2021 to 31.03.2026
S. No.	Financial Year	Area Approved (in Ha.)
1	2021-2022	3492.011
2	2022-2023	2045.712
3	2023-2024	9219.701
4	2024-2025	3236.635
5	2025-2026	6975.807
Grand Total		24969.87

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