

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3095
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.03.2017

Encroachment of Forest Land

3095. SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE:

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

- (a) the total area of forest land in the country along with the details of the forest land occupied by tribals/forest dwellers and non-tribal people for livelihood, State/ UT-wise;
- (b) whether complaints have been received by the Union Government regarding encroachment of forest land by outsiders for constructing farm houses and Dhabas in Maharashtra and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government thereon;
- (c) the penal provisions under the Indian Forest Act for encroachment of reserved forest land; and
- (d) the details of the action taken along with the number of persons against whom action has been taken under these provisions in Maharashtra during the last three years?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE)

- (a) The State / UT wise details of recorded forest areas as per India State of Forest Report, 2015 of the Forest Survey of India, Dehradun is given at Annexure-I. The details of the forest land occupied by tribals/forest dwellers and non-tribal people for livelihood, are not maintained at the Ministry level.

As per information received from Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India, a total of 136,12,921.16 acres of forest land has been distributed under the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 as on 31.01.2017. The State/UT wise details are given at Annexure-II.

- (b) The Ministry has not received any specific complaint regarding encroachment of forest land by outsiders for constructing farm houses and Dhabas in Maharashtra.
- (c) As per the provisions of Section 63(c) of the Indian Forest Act,1927 the penal provision for encroachment of reserved forest land is as under:

“whoever, with intent to cause damage or injury to the public or to any person, or to cause wrongful gain as defined in the Indian Penal Code, alters, moves, destroys

or defaces any boundary-mark of any forest or wasteland to which the provisions of this Act are applied, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, or fine, or with both.”

- (d) The information received from State of Maharashtra regarding action taken against encroachment in forest area is at Annexure – III.

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO PART (a) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3095 DUE FOR 21.03.2017 REGARDING ENCROACHMENT OF FOREST LAND ASKED BY SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE

S.No.	State/UTs	Total Recorded Forest Area 2015 (sq. km)	Percent of Geographical Area
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	7171	86.93
2	Andhra Pradesh	37258	13.54
3	Arunachal Pradesh	51407	61.39
4	Assam	26832	34.21
5	Bihar	6493	6.9
6	Chandigarh	35	30.7
7	Chhattisgarh	59772	44.21
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	204	41.55
9	Daman and Diu	8	7.14
10	Delhi	102	6.88
11	Goa	1225	33.09
12	Gujarat	21647	11.04
13	Haryana	1559	3.53
14	Himachal Pradesh	37033	66.52
15	Jammu and Kashmir	20230	9.1
16	Jharkhand	23605	29.61
17	Karnataka	38284	19.96
18	Kerala	11309	29.1
19	Lakshadweep	0	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	94689	30.72
21	Maharashtra	61579	20.01
22	Manipur	17418	78.01
23	Meghalaya	9496	42.34
24	Mizoram	5641	26.76
25	Nagaland	9222	55.62
26	Odisha	58136	37.34
27	Puducherry	13	2.71
28	Punjab	3084	6.12
29	Rajasthan	32737	9.57
30	Sikkim	5841	82.31
31	Tamil Nadu	22877	17.59
32	Tripura	6294	60.02
33	Telangana	26904	23.42
34	Uttar Pradesh	16582	6.88
35	Uttarakhand	38000	71.05
36	West Bengal	11879	13.38
	Total	764566	23.26

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO PART (a) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3095 DUE FOR 21.03.2017 REGARDING ENCROACHMENT OF FOREST LAND ASKED BY SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE

S. No.	States	No. of Claims received upto 31.01.2017			No. of Titles Distributed upto 31.01.2017			Extent of Forest land for which titles distributed (in acres)		
		Individual	Community	Total	Individual	Community	Total	Individual	Community	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	1,68,879	4,711	1,73,590	85,615	1,415	87,030	2,02,261.00	4,41,063.00	6,43,324.00
2	Assam	1,48,965	6,046	1,55,011	57,325	1,477	58,802	NA	NA	NA
3	Bihar	8,022	0	8,022	121	0	121	NA	0.00	NA
4	Chhattisgarh	8,42,725	23,949	8,66,674	3,69,368	12,337	3,81,705	7,97,685.00	12,86,669.21	20,84,354.22
5	Goa	9,372	361	9,733	0	3	3	0.00	4.35	4.35
6	Gujarat	1,82,869	6,998	1,89,867	79,614	3,484	83,098	1,17,006.91	11,42,191.96	12,59,198.87
7	Himachal Pradesh	591	68	659	0	7	7	0.00	4,670.28	4,670.28
8	Jharkhand	99,224	3,286	1,02,510	54,458	1,723	56,181	98,265.22	45,503.71	1,43,768.93
9	Karnataka	2,98,795	5,741	3,04,536	12,421	628	13,049	16,436.60	26,465.31	42,901.91
10	Kerala	36,140	1,395	37,535	24,599	NA	24,599	33,018.12	NA	33,018.12
11	Madhya Pradesh	5,74,902	39,816	6,14,718	2,11,214	27,422	2,38,636	7,92,295.50	13,02,165.93	20,94,461.44
12	Maharashtra	3,52,950	11,408	3,64,358	1,06,898	5,748	1,12,646	5,77,026.20	44,35,944.77	50,12,970.97
13	Odisha	6,21,622	13,433	6,35,055	4,03,338	5,891	4,09,229	6,03,293.56	2,84,109.67	8,87,403.23
14	Rajasthan	70,515	755	71,270	35,628		35,628	55,116.12	660.79	55,776.91
15	Tamil Nadu	18,420	3,361	21,781	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
16	Telangana	1,83,107	3,427	1,86,534	93,494	721	94,215	3,00,092.00	4,54,055.00	7,54,147.00
17	Tripura	1,93,751	277	1,94,028	1,24,541	16	1,24,557	4,34,119.45	27.07	4,34,146.52
18	Uttar Pradesh	92,520	1,124	93,644	17,712	843	18,555	18,854.46	1,20,802.06	1,39,656.53
19	Uttarakhand	182	0	182	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
20	West Bengal	1,31,962	10,119	1,42,081	44,396	805	45,201	22,065.05	1,052.84	23,117.89
	TOTAL	40,35,513	1,36,275	41,71,788	17,20,742	62,520	17,83,262	40,67,535	95,45,386	136,12,921.16

ANNEXURE-III

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO PART (d) OF THE LOK SBHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3095 DUE FOR 21.03.2017
REGARDING ENCROACHMENT OF FOREST LAND ASKED BY SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE

year	Area under encroachment at the beginning of the year		Encroachment made during the year		Total encroachment		Encroachment removed during the year		Encroachment balance at the end of the year	
	No. of cases	Area in Ha.	No. of cases	Area in Ha.	No. of cases	Area in Ha.	No. of cases	Area in Ha.	No. of cases	Area in Ha.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
2005-06	40345	79671	1880	1700	42225	81371	736	1263	41489	80108
2006-07	117652	78388	1574	1378	119226	79766	1891	916	117335	78850
2007-08	116947	78493	1486	2477	118433	80970	797	763	117636	80207
2008-09	117918	80234	2979	5589	120897	85823	3062	5527	117835	80296
2009-10	117881	80295	3648	6643	121529	86938	1350	4705	120179	82233
2010-11	120179	82233	2231	2554	122410	84787	2922	3032	119488	81755
2011-12	123540	84773	1953	3369	125493	88142	1368	1929	124125	86213
2012-13	124125	86212	4293	1614	128418	87826	21945	17748	106473	70077
2013-14	106473	70077	25901	5153	132374	75232	14489	7342	117885	67890
2014-15	118036	69005	5770	5160	123806	74164	3767	2537	120039	71627