

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No.1315**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.12.2017

**Forest Land in Madhya Pradesh**

1315. SHRIMATI RITI PATHAK:

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

- (a) the total area of land reserved as forest land in Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) the number of people who have encroached upon the forest land for years;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated/proposes to formulate any policy to give land on lease to these people for house construction and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, whether the Government proposes to remove the encroachment on the forest land from the people; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**  
**(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)**

- (a) The total recorded forest area in Madhya Pradesh is 94,689 sq km. The details are as follows:-

<b>Recorded Forest Land in Madhya Pradesh</b>	
1. Reserved Forest Land	61,886 sq.km.
2. Protected Forest Land	31,098 sq.km.
3. Unclassified Forest Land	1,705 sq.km.
<b>Total Forest Land</b>	<b>94,689 sq.km.</b>

- (b) The information on number of people who have encroached upon the forest land is not maintained at the level of this Ministry.
- (c) The Government of Madhya Pradesh has no such proposal or policy to give land on lease to these people for house construction.
- (d) As per the information received from Madhya Pradesh Forest Department, illegal occupation of forest land/ encroachers will be removed from forest land after following due process of law. Direction has already been issued by Madhya Pradesh Forest Department in this regard.
- (e) Encroachments which are not eligible for regularisation under provisions of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006, has to be removed as it violates provisions of Indian Forest Act 1927.