

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1246
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2018

Encroachment in Reserved Forests Area

1246. SHRI RAMESH CHANDER KAUSHIK:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note that incidents of encroachment in the reserved forest areas of the country have gone up in recent years and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has fixed accountabilities of officials in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government against the officials found guilty; and
- (d) the corrective measures taken by the Government to check such encroachments?

ANSWER

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

- (a) This Ministry is not in receipt of any specific report/ information that incidents of encroachment in the reserve forest areas of the country have gone up in the recent years. However, the State / Union Territory wise updated details on forest area under encroachment is given in the **Annexure**.
- (b) & (c) The primary responsibility of protection of forests from various threats including encroachment lies with the respective State/ UT Governments. Hence, the respective State/ UT Governments fix the accountability on various officials and take action against those who are found guilty in this regard, as per the extant acts, rules and regulations made there under.
- (d) The State/ UT Governments, besides taking legal actions against encroachment as per the extant acts, rules & regulations, also take various other measures such as demarcation and digitization of forest boundaries, strengthening infrastructure for forest protection, involving fringe area forest communities such as Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) etc. to prevent and control encroachments.

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF PART (a) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1246 DUE FOR 09.02.2018 REGARDING ENCROACHMENT IN RESERVE FORESTS AREA ASKED BY SHRI SHRI RAMESH CHANDER KAUSHIK

S. No.	Name of States/UTs	Area of Encroachment (in ha.)	As on Date
1	Andhra Pradesh	1690.72	31.03.2016
2	Bihar	132.21	31.03.2015
3	Chhattisgarh	19330.64	31.01.2016
4	Gujarat	34791.00	19.03.2011
5	Goa	Nil	25.02.2013
6	Haryana	520.00	31.03.2016
7	Himachal Pradesh	2339.02	31.03.2016
8	Jharkhand	26496.00	07.08.2017
9	Jammu & Kashmir	10279.28	31.03.2017
10	Karnataka	82734.81	31.03.2017
11	Kerala	7801.10	31.03.2017
12	Madhya Pradesh	534717.28	31.03.2016
13	Maharashtra	67012.56	31.03.2016
14	Odisha	78505.08	22.07.2011
15	Punjab	8175.31	31.03.2017
16	Rajasthan	10839.76	31.03.2017
17	Tamil Nadu	15041.57	31.03.2017
18	Telangana	3056.00	31.03.2017
19	Uttar Pradesh	23954.41	31.03.2017
20	Uttarakhand	9534.10	13.12.2017
21	West Bengal	10214.80	31.03.2016
22	Arunachal Pradesh	58636.13	31.03.2016
23	Assam	317215.39	17.03.2015
24	Manipur	6726.51	31.03.2017
25	Meghalaya	9378.00	12.03.2011
26	Mizoram	11408.16	28.11.2017
27	Nagaland	2479.96	31.03.2017
28	Sikkim	2817.21	31.03.2016
29	Tripura	6.77	08.08.2014
30	A & N Islands	4068.69	31.03.2016
31	Chandigarh	14.00	03.08.2017
32	D&N Haveli	614.40	31.03.2013
33	Daman & Diu	87.83	28.09.2010
34	Lakshadweep	Nil	28.08.2010
35	Delhi	629.51	11.04.2012
36	Puducherry	Nil	21.10.2010
	TOTAL	1361248.21	