

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2528**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.03.2018

**Decrease in Forest Cover**

2528. SHRI PARESH RAVAL:  
SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY:  
SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN:  
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:

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

- (a) the details of forest areas in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether there has been decrease in area of forest cover in various States;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to introduce any scheme to increase forest cover area in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government is working towards in targeted forest cover under the National forest policy; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the achievement made so far in this regard?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (c) Forest Survey of India, Dehradun, a subordinate organization under Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, carries out the assessment of forest cover of the country biennially and the findings are published in India State of Forest Report (ISFR). As per the latest report i.e. ISFR- 2017, the Total Forest and Tree Cover of the country is 8,02,088 square kilometers which is 24.40% of the total geographical area of the country. It shows an increase of 8021 square kilometers over that of the India State of Forest Report 2015 (updated). The State/UT-wise details of forest and tree cover including increase/decrease in forest and tree cover are **Annexed**.

(d) to (f) To increase the forest and tree cover in the country, afforestation programmes are being taken up under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as National Afforestation Programme (NAP) and Green India Mission (GIM) being implemented by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. Afforestation activities are also taken up under various programmes/funding sources such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment

Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) which, from 2015-16, has been amalgamated as the Watershed Development Component of the “Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)” and under Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA).

As per the National Forest Policy, 1988, 33% of the geographical area of the country is envisaged to be brought under forest and tree cover. As per ISFR-2017, the total forest and tree cover of the country is 24.40% of the Total Geographical Area.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) to (c) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2528 due for answer on 09.03.2018 regarding 'Decrease in Forest Cover'

## Forest Cover in States/UTs in India

(area in square kilometers)

State	Geographic Area	Total Forest and Tree cover as per ISFR-2017	Percent of Geographic area	Change in forest cover wrt ISFR 2015 updated	Change Percent
Andhra Pradesh	162968	28,147	17.27	2141	1.31
Arunachal Pradesh	83743	66,964	79.96	-190	-0.23
Assam	78438	28,105	35.83	567	0.72
Bihar	94163	7,299	7.75	45	0.05
Chhattisgarh	135192	55,547	41.09	-12	-0.01
Delhi	1483	192.41	12.97	3.64	0.25
Goa	3702	2,229	60.21	19	0.51
Gujarat	196244	14,757	7.52	47	0.02
Haryana	44212	1,588	3.59	8	0.02
Himachal Pradesh	55673	15,100	27.12	393	0.71
Jammu & Kashmir *	222236	23,241	10.46	253	0.11
Jharkhand	79716	23,553	29.55	29	0.04
Karnataka	191791	37,550	19.58	1101	0.57
Kerala	38852	20,321	52.30	1043	2.68
Madhya Pradesh	308252	77,414	25.11	-12	0.00
Maharashtra	307713	50,682	16.47	-17	-0.01
Manipur	22327	17,346	77.69	263	1.18
Meghalaya	22429	17,146	76.45	-116	-0.52
Mizoram	21081	18,186	86.27	-531	-2.52
Nagaland	16579	12,489	75.33	-450	-2.71
Odisha	155707	51,345	32.98	885	0.57
Punjab	50362	1837	3.65	66	0.13
Rajasthan	342239	16,572	4.84	466	0.14
Sikkim	7096	3,344	47.13	-9	-0.13
Tamil Nadu	130060	26,281	20.21	73	0.06
Telangana	112077	20,419	18.22	565	0.50
Tripura	10486	7,726	73.68	-164	-1.56
Uttar Pradesh	240928	14,679	6.09	278	0.12
Uttarakhand	53483	24,295	45.43	23	0.04
West Bengal	88752	16,847	18.98	21	0.02
A&N Islands	8249	6,742	81.73	-9	-0.11
Chandigarh	114	21.56	18.91	-0.10	-0.09
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	491	207	42.16	1	0.20
Daman & Diu	111	20.49	18.46	0.88	0.79
Lakshadweep	30	27.10	90.33	0.04	0.13
Puducherry	490	53.67	10.95	-3.28	-0.67
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>32,87,469</b>	<b>708273</b>	<b>21.54</b>	<b>6778</b>	<b>0.21</b>

\* Includes Jammu & Kashmir area outside LoC that is under illegal occupation of Pakistan and China.

