

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 6573**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.04.2018

**Increase in Forest Cover**

**6573. SHRI RAMDAS C. TADAS:**  
SHRI BHAIRON PRASAD MISHRA:  
SHRI NATUBHAI GOMANBHAI PATEL:

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

- (a) whether the Government has undertaken a massive plantation drive across the country to increase green cover;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise along with the target fixed for plantation of trees by the year 2019;
- (c) whether there has been an increase in the green cover in the country due to plantation drive during the last three years and if so, the State/UT-wise details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has sought assistance of social service organisations in this regard and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has taken steps to protect the planted saplings from drying up and if so, the details thereof along with funds earmarked for the purpose and directions issued to concerned authorities in this regard; and
- (f) the other steps taken by the Government to promote forest based economy in the country?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) & (b) At present the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has taken up plantation activities to increase green cover under the Green India Mission (GIM) and National Afforestation Programme (NAP) schemes. GIM activities were started in the financial year 2015-16 and so far fund amounting to Rs. 157.64 Cr. have been released under GIM to nine States for carrying out GIM activities. An expenditure of Rs. 3698.63 Cr has been incurred to treat an area of 21.38 lakh hectares since inception of the NAP scheme till Financial Year 2017-18. The targets for plantation of trees for year 2019 will be based on fund availability.
- (c) The Forest and tree cover of the country, as per the Indian State of Forest Report (ISFR), 2017 is 802088 sq.km which is 24.40 per cent of the geographical area of the country. There is an increase of 8021 sq. km in the forest and tree cover of the country as compared to 2015 assessment report. The State/UT-wise details are annexed (**Annexure-I**).

(d) The Ministry is releasing the funds to the State Governments for implementation of schemes. The States may engage the social service organisations as per their requirements for implementation of schemes.

(e) & (f) The Ministry is releasing the funds to the State Governments for implementation of schemes which includes maintenance and protection of already completed plantation works. The different schemes of the Ministry have the provision for providing services like fuel, fodder, and timber and non-timber forest produces (NTFPs) to promote forest based economy.

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## Forest Cover in States/UTs in India

(Area in sq km)

State	Geographic Area	2017 Assessment	Change in forest cover wrt ISFR 2015 updated
		Total Forest cover	
Andhra Pradesh	162968	28,147	2141
Arunachal Pradesh	83743	66,964	-190
Assam	78438	28,105	567
Bihar	94163	7,299	45
Chhattisgarh	135192	55,547	-12
Delhi	1483	192.41	3.64
Goa	3702	2,229	19
Gujarat	196244	14,757	47
Haryana	44212	1,588	8
Himachal Pradesh	55673	15,100	393
Jammu & Kashmir *	222236	23,241	253
Jharkhand	79716	23,553	29
Karnataka	191791	37,550	1101
Kerala	38852	20,321	1043
Madhya Pradesh	308252	77,414	-12
Maharashtra	307713	50,682	-17
Manipur	22327	17,346	263
Meghalaya	22429	17,146	-116
Mizoram	21081	18,186	-531
Nagaland	16579	12,489	-450
Odisha	155707	51,345	885
Punjab	50362	1837	66
Rajasthan	342239	16,572	466
Sikkim	7096	3,344	-9
Tamil Nadu	130060	26,281	73
Telangana	112077	20,419	565
Tripura	10486	7,726	-164
Uttar Pradesh	240928	14,679	278
Uttarakhand	53483	24,295	23
West Bengal	88752	16,847	21
A&N Islands	8249	6,742	-9
Chandigarh	114	21.56	-0.10
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	491	207	1
Daman & Diu	111	20.49	0.88
Lakshadweep	30	27.10	0.04
Puducherry	490	53.67	-3.28
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>32,87,469</b>	<b>708273</b>	<b>6778</b>

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

State/Union Territory\* wise Tree Cover Estimates

(Area in sq. km)

State/Union Territory*	Geog. Area	Tree Cover 2015	Tree Cover 2017	Change with respect to ISFR 2015 (updated)
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	162968	3965	3753	-212
Arunachal Pradesh	83743	761	807	46
Assam	78438	1613	1496	-117
Bihar	94163	2182	2263	81
Chhattisgarh	135192	3629	3833	204
Delhi	1483	111	113	2
Goa	3702	325	323	-2
Gujarat	196244	7914	8024	110
Haryana	44212	1355	1415	60
Himachal Pradesh	55673	757	822	65
Jammu & Kashmir	222236	8354	7815	-539
Jharkhand	79716	2783	2922	139
Karnataka	191791	5552	5713	161
Kerala	38852	2951	2959	8
Madhya Pradesh	308252	7773	8073	300
Maharashtra	307713	9558	9831	273
Manipur	22327	243	220	-23
Meghalaya	22429	710	657	-53
Mizoram	21081	535	467	-68
Nagaland	16579	381	379	-2
Orissa	155707	3986	3993	7
Punjab	50362	1544	1622	78
Rajasthan	342239	8269	8266	-3
Sikkim	7096	35	35	0
Tamil Nadu	130060	4505	4671	166
Telangana	112077	2549	2669	120
Tripura	10486	233	215	-18
Uttar Pradesh	240928	7044	7442	398
Uttarakhand	53483	752	767	15
West Bengal	88752	2088	2136	48
Andaman & Nicobar Islands*	8249	37	35	-2
Chandigarh*	114	9	10	1
Dadra & Nagar Haveli*	491	28	30	2
Daman & Diu*	111	10	10	0
Lakshadweep*	30	4	2	-2
Puducherry*	490	27	27	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3287469</b>	<b>92572</b>	<b>93815</b>	<b>1243</b>