

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 669
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.07.2018

Land Degradation

669. SHRI OM BIRLA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to State?

- (a) the details of the total estimated land area which has been subjected to degradation in country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether a survey has been carried out by the Government which states that there has been a considerable loss to GDP of country due to degradation of land during past few years and if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government to tackle such problem;
- (c) whether the Government is working towards achieving sustainable development goals as agreed upon in 'United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification' and if so, the details thereof along with target set by the Government in this regard;
- (d) whether there exist a more comprehensive coordination strategy to combat land degradation challenge in the country and that there is a need to spread awareness as to its consequences in the lower strata of the society as well; and
- (e) If so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) A total of 96.40 Million Hectare Area (mha) of the country is undergoing process of land degradation, i.e. 29.32% of the Total Geographic Area (TGA) of the country during 2011-13 (Space Applications Centre, 2016). The State/UT wise data of the same is placed at Annex I.

(b) No. The Government has not carried out any survey which states that there has been a considerable loss to GDP of the country due to degradation of land during the past few years.

(c) The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) is the custodian agency for SDG indicator 15.3.1 ("Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area") to monitor progress towards achieving SDG target 15.3 – Life on Land. The Hon'ble Minister, MoEF&CC, on the occasion of World Day to Combat Desertification on 17 June 2014, had announced India's commitment to achieve LDN by 2030 with the cooperation and synchronized efforts of other relevant line-Ministries. Further, India at the thirteenth session of the Conference of Parties (CoP 13) United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) held in Ordos, Inner Mongolia, China, from 6-16 September 2017, has expressed its intention to join the Global Mechanism's Land Degradation Neutrality Target Setting Programme (LDN-TSP).

(d) & (e) Government is continuing its efforts at efficient utilization and conservation of land and water resources through a number of programmes on watershed management, rainwater conservation, afforestation under schemes like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), PradhanMantriKrishiSinchaiYojna (PMKSY), Per Drop More Crop, RashtriyaKrishiVikasYojana, DeenDayalAntyodayaYojana- National Rural Livelihoods Mission, DeendayalUpadhyayGrameenKaushalyaYojana etc. This effort encompasses the involvement and coordination between various government agencies at the national and sub-national level. Such programmes have been formulated after due consultations with relevant stakeholders and experts including those from scientific organisations/institutes under Government of India, and Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs) working at various strata of the society.

State wise Status of Desertification / Land Degradation (area in ha)

State Name	Vegetation Degradation		Water Erosion		Wind Erosion		Salinity		Water Logging		Frost Shattering		Mass Movement	
	2011-13	2003-05	2011-13	2003-05	2011-13	2003-05	2011-13	2003-05	2011-13	2003-05	2011-13	2003-05	2011-13	2003-05
Andhra Pradesh	1164257	1168447	789433	783830	3986	4722	117952	117239	132334	125755	20186	19072	-	-
Arunachal Pradesh	120499	107845	-	-	-	-	-	-	18667	193669	-	-	-	-
Assam	471958	322540	31424	31424	-	-	-	-	106628	78450	-	-	-	-
Bihar	242525	255073	321175	304364	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chhattisgarh	1348089	1348122	783645	770387	-	-	-	-	347	347	-	-	-	-
Delhi	9980	9980	-	-	-	-	-	-	9005	9003	-	-	-	-
Goa	138172	132301	33889	33892	-	-	-	-	3375	3375	-	-	-	-
Gujarat	2319826	2255417	38559497	3788099	1177105	1179548	2645405	2643828	12530	8822	-	-	-	-
Haryana	41411	40514	13568	13568	151797	148151	27841	27841	-	-	332423	322417	-	-
Himachal Pradesh	1790803	1582938	268261	233990	-	-	-	-	70563	46548	2968279	2750257	927986	843554
Jammu and Kashmir	1951000	1907187	146932	110222	1670244	1650577	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jharkhand	1379038	1307162	4036785	4037261	-	-	86740	86582	-	-	-	-	-	-
Karnataka	1712386	1704569	5043041	5059629	2159	2159	-	-	11989	12906	-	-	-	-
Kerala	337613	328638	-	-	-	-	-	-	7788	7788	-	-	-	-
Madhya Pradesh	2523801	2514983	1125418	1120221	-	-	29089	30054	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maharashtra	4884005	4890778	8060753	7622800	-	-	-	-	5026	5026	-	-	-	-
Manipur	575603	574706	8070	8070	-	-	-	-	1548	5881	-	-	-	-
Meghalaya	435527	414659	53149	54046	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mizoram	167050	81854	8119	7444	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nagaland	778421	637957	-	-	-	-	-	-	36439	36439	-	-	-	-
Orissa	745122	752929	4409413	4442556	-	-	-	-	18421	18421	-	-	-	-
Punjab	32561	18705	14116	1897	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rajasthan	2606221	2596003	2116314	2116082	15197874	15332054	363768	365666	-	-	3730	3730	-	-
Sikkim	74318	74205	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tamil Nadu	1385478	1368330	6411	6411	30429	30429	9878	9878	-	-	-	-	-	-
Telangana	541145	538533	2854285	2951871	-	-	86514	81917	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tripura	236374	125058	186900	189533	-	-	-	-	33620	33907	-	-	-	-
Uttar Pradesh	413476	414176	586961	610989	-	-	307571	636202	-	-	13786	13786	-	-
Uttarakhand	606616	545610	11943	11943	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
West Bengal	265277	264325	1329539	1299542	-	-	-	-	17627	13261	-	-	-	-
Total	29298553	28283544	36099042	35610069	18233594	18347639	3674759	3999206	653908	599597	3338404	3109262	927986	843554



State wise Status of Desertification / Land Degradation (area in ha)

State Name	Mannmade		Barren/Rocky		Settlement		TOTAL DESERTIFIED		TOTAL DEGRADED		No Apparent Degradation	
	2011-13	2003-05	2011-13	2003-05	2011-13	2003-05	2011-13	2003-05	2011-13	2003-05	2011-13	2003-05
Andhra Pradesh	20833	20565	20521	20521	49441	26649	2298758	2267728	14.35	14.16	13447078	13476591
Assam	-	-	-	-	13247	9769	153933	136686	1.84	1.63	8144850	8162237
Bihar	984	984	-	-	26548	24583	716596	572215	9.14	7.30	6591013	6735134
Chhattisgarh	40541	31972	7222	7222	23496	20669	694809	659539	7.38	7.00	8511828	8527091
Delhi	-	-	-	-	31656	18685	2211133	2176388	16.36	16.10	11130592	11166012
Goa	3374	3374	-	-	79541	63187	89868	73514	52.13	49.57	57307	73661
Gujarat	51637	50524	39218	39218	8533	7889	192973	186458	60.60	50.37	168648	174991
Haryana	5962	4894	-	-	165578	117447	338964	314583	52.29	51.35	8533439	8718876
Himachal Pradesh	656	656	-	-	85855	70792	2394240	2141366	7.67	7.12	4082236	4106617
Jammu and Kashmir	-	-	218679	218679	2097	1365	7969607	7538814	43.01	38.46	3123624	3376690
Jharkhand	52734	49730	-	-	15924	11790	5498726	5418657	35.86	33.92	14027316	14455333
Karnataka	20876	18704	3389	2887	30169	24503	6951000	6940943	68.98	67.97	2398866	2469577
Kerala	-	-	-	-	82409	66413	379587	370512	36.24	36.19	11984329	11994157
Madhya Pradesh	19454	16024	31495	30457	29984	28968	3800315	3771853	9.77	9.54	3455238	3464358
Maharashtra	19912	19912	506163	509789	96359	82379	13825935	13348604	12.34	12.24	26502030	26648676
Manipur	-	-	-	-	13260	5290	601959	593093	44.93	43.38	16415568	16873660
Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	326013	275272	601959	593093	26.96	26.56	1613978	1622844
Mizoram	-	-	-	-	4656	4239	494880	478825	22.06	21.35	1746580	1762634
Nagaland	-	-	-	-	12285	6575	187453	95873	8.89	4.55	1903762	1998679
Orissa	63851	51445	5128	5053	8257	4347	786678	642304	47.45	38.74	869562	1013937
Punjab	1641	652	-	-	44161	33481	5304114	5321903	34.06	34.18	9758929	9741425
Rajasthan	53058	50865	1052374	1047818	96335	71861	144653	93115	2.87	1.85	4849651	4901242
Sikkim	-	-	-	-	118482	98696	21526512	21625604	62.90	63.19	12546925	12448140
Tamil Nadu	13965	13965	515	515	700	546	78749	78482	11.10	11.06	630234	630500
Telangana	16982	14592	1979	1979	97223	87133	1543898	1516660	11.87	11.66	11344261	11371500
Tripura	-	-	-	-	97951	69591	3598856	3658482	31.34	31.86	7689491	7631019
Uttar Pradesh	5970	4028	-	-	13854	12711	437128	327302	41.69	31.21	608776	716717
Uttarakhand	-	-	-	-	181399	135962	1528997	1835263	6.35	7.62	22115961	21831845
West Bengal	15102	14112	-	-	15908	9903	648253	581241	12.12	10.87	4667750	4738936
Total	407531	366998	1886682	1884137	106386	90941	1733931	1682181	19.54	18.95	6884910	6926022
					1877708	1481638	96398166	9452643	29.32	28.76	225804731	227759103

