

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. \*260**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.12.2018

**Forest Fires**

\*260. ADV. M. UDHAYAKUMAR:

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

- (a) whether forest fires impacted a large area in many parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the forest personnel in the country are ill equipped to deal with the forest fires; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide them with the equipments and communication facilities?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

**(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)**

(a) to (d) The statement is laid on the Table of the House.

\*\*\*\*

**STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (d) OF THE LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION No. \*260 DUE FOR 28.12.2018 REGARDING FOREST FIRES  
ASKED BY ADV.M. UDHAYAKUMAR**

- (a) & (b) According to the India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2015, published by the Forest Survey of India, Dehradun, the estimated fire prone area under heavy, moderate and mild fire are 2.40 percent, 7.49 percent and 54.40 percent of Recorded Forest Areas (RFAs) respectively, thus making the total forest fire prone area as 64.29 percent of the Recorded Forest Area (RFA).

These estimates are based on the field data from National Forest Inventory (NFI), wherein damages due to forest fire are observed occularly in a circular area of two hectare around the plot center and classified as 'Heavy' if more than 50 percent of the area/crop is affected by fire; 'Moderate' if 10-50 percent of the area is affected by fire; 'Mild' if the area affected is less than 10 percent.

The Ministry in collaboration with the World Bank has conducted a study on Situation Analysis of Forest Fire and released a study report titled "Strengthening Forest Fire Management in India" which contains various recommendations regarding fire prevention, detection, suppression, post-fire management, engaging with communities, coordination with other agencies etc. As per the report, 20 districts mainly located in the North East accounted for about 40.29 per cent of all forest fires detected between 2003 and 2016. Similarly, 20 districts, mainly in Central India, accounted for about 48.18 percent of the total fire affected area in the country between 2003 and 2016. The details are given in Annexure-I and Annexure-II.

- (c) & (d) The Ministry has formulated National Action Plan on Forest Fire and circulated to all State/UT Governments for taking appropriate action for effective prevention and management of forest fire.

The Ministry supports the efforts of State/Union Territory Governments in prevention and control of forest fire by providing financial assistance for various forest fire prevention and management measures such as creation and maintenance of fire lines in forest areas, engagement of fire watchers, creation of water storage structures in forest areas, strengthening of forest infrastructure, procurement of fire fighting equipments, Soil and Moisture Conservation (SMC) works in high risk areas, awareness creation, incentivizing villages/communities for protection against forest fire etc. under the Centrally Sponsored Forest Fire Prevention and Management (FPM) Scheme. The details of fund released to State/ UT Governments for various forest protection measures including forest fire prevention and management under the erstwhile Intensification of Forest Management Scheme (IFMS) and the ongoing Forest Fire Prevention and Management (FPM) Scheme during the last three years (as on 24.12.2018) is given in Annexure-III.

\*\*\*

## ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No. \*260 DUE FOR 28.12.2018 REGARDING FOREST FIRES ASKED BY ADV. M. UDHAYAKUMAR

S.No	District, State, Region	Fire detections, 2003-2016 (number)	Share of fire detections, 2003-2016 (%)	Share of total forest cover, 2000 (%)
1	Lunglei, Mizoram, North East	13,453	3.82	0.87
2	Karbi Anglong, Assam, North East	12,238	3.48	1.71
3	Dima Hasao, Assam, North East	11,608	3.30	0.91
4	Churachandpur, Manipur, North East	11,068	3.15	0.87
5	Mamit, Mizoram, North East	9,005	2.56	0.58
6	Lawngtlai, Mizoram, North East	8,501	2.42	0.43
7	Tamenglong, Manipur, North East	8,163	2.32	0.79
8	Aizawl, Mizoram, North East	6,705	1.91	0.61
9	Gadchiroli, Maharashtra, Central	6,264	1.78	1.56
10	Dhalai, Tripura, North East	6,234	1.77	0.40
	<b>Top 10 subtotal</b>	<b>93,239</b>	<b>26.50</b>	<b>8.73</b>
11	Champhai, Mizoram, North East	5,940	1.69	0.64
12	W. Khasi Hills, Meghalaya, North East	5,220	1.48	0.88
13	Narayanpur, Chhattisgarh, Central	5,098	1.45	0.78
14	Ribhoi, Meghalaya, North East	4,835	1.37	0.43
15	Kandhamal, Odisha, Central	4,753	1.35	1.09
16	E. Garo Hills, Meghalaya, North East	4,687	1.33	0.50
17	Ukhrul, Manipur, North East	4,645	1.32	0.78
18	Chandel, Manipur, North East	4,628	1.32	0.56
19	Bijapur, Chhattisgarh, Central	4,615	1.31	1.19
20	North Tripura, Tripura, North East	4,087	1.16	0.33
	<b>Top 20 subtotal</b>	<b>141,747</b>	<b>40.29</b>	<b>15.91</b>

## ANNEXURE-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No. \*260 DUE FOR 28.12.2018 REGARDING FOREST FIRES ASKED BY ADV. M. UDHAYAKUMAR

S.No	District, State, Region	Fire affected area, 2003-2016 (sq km)	Share of burnt area, 2003-2016 (%)	Share of total forest cover, 2000 (%)
1	Gadchiroli, Maharashtra, Central	4,106	8.24	1.56
2	Bijapur, Chhattisgarh, Central	2,633	5.29	1.19
3	Khammam, Telangana, South	1,923	3.86	1.13
4	Narayanpur, Chhattisgarh, Central	1,346	2.70	0.78
5	Warangal, Telangana, South	1,273	2.56	0.45
6	Koriya, Chhattisgarh, Central	1,169	2.35	0.42
7	Adilabad, Telangana, South	995	2.00	0.39
8	Chandrapur, Maharashtra, Central	970	1.95	0.31
9	Surguja, Chhattisgarh, Central	948	1.90	0.79
10	Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh, South	895	1.80	0.23
	<b>Top 10 subtotal</b>	<b>16,258</b>	<b>32.64</b>	<b>7.24</b>
11	Amravati, Maharashtra, Central	888	1.78	0.23
12	Y.S.R., Andhra Pradesh, South	854	1.71	0.32
13	Prakasam, Andhra Pradesh, South	849	1.70	0.31
14	Dakshin Bastar Dantewada, Chhattisgarh, Central	803	1.61	0.73
15	Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh, Central	799	1.60	0.36
16	Raipur, Chhattisgarh, Central	777	1.56	0.50
17	Betul, Madhya Pradesh, Central	727	1.46	0.29
18	Champhai, Mizoram, North East	707	1.42	0.64
19	Lawngtlai, Mizoram, North East	673	1.35	0.43
20	Dima Hasao, Assam, North East	665	1.34	0.91
	<b>Top 20 subtotal</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>48.18</b>	<b>11.97</b>

## ANNEXURE-III

## ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) &amp; (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No. \*260 DUE FOR 28.12.2018 REGARDING FOREST FIRES ASKED BY ADV. M. UDHAYAKUMAR

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	States	2015-16 Released	2016-17 Released	2017-18 Released	2018-19 Released (As on 24.12.2018)
<b>Other States</b>					
1	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	260.06
2	Bihar	59.09	88.59	75.00	57.17
3	Chhattisgarh	120.75	211.04	168.00	104.60
4	Gujarat	179.99	122.26	75.00	92.16
5	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	Haryana	77.86	93.91	75.00	0.00
7	Himachal Pradesh	302.16	331.36	276.70	0.00
8	Jammu & Kashmir	193.93	95.61	75.00	0.00
9	Jharkhand	83.62	199.63	105.00	107.84
10	Karnataka	228.19	203.27	105.00	148.36
11	Kerala	86.00	163.65	234.53	220.83
12	Madhya Pradesh	420.00	281.15	168.00	572.08
13	Maharashtra	447.32	372.58	321.58	629.76
14	Orissa	136.00	266.14	168.00	348.01
15	Punjab	77.00	0.00	75.00	0.00
16	Rajasthan	112.54	174.22	105.00	98.82
17	Tamil Nadu	203.02	74.29	105.00	0.00
18	Telangana	0.00	0.00	105.00	0.00
19	Uttar Pradesh	156.15	139.72	75.00	100.61
20	Uttarakhand	356.83	304.03	168.00	438.38
21	West Bengal	0.00	92.83	75.00	54.14
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3240.45</b>	<b>3214.28</b>	<b>2554.81</b>	<b>3232.82</b>
<b>NE &amp; Sikkim</b>					
1	Assam	0	0	0.00	93.23
2	Arunachal Pradesh	85.07	181.34	102.00	0.00
3	Manipur	240.76	125.02	219.88	181.73
4	Meghalaya	180.26	126.57	104.63	113.53
5	Mizoram	153.17	131.29	90.59	88.37
6	Nagaland	122.6	170.01	92.56	66.49
7	Sikkim	150	119.73	148.59	0.00
8	Tripura	147.19	190.76	66.00	65.40
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1079.05</b>	<b>1044.72</b>	<b>824.25</b>	<b>608.75</b>
<b>Union Territories</b>					
1	A & N Islands	28.00	56.23	9.00	0.00
2	Chandigarh	36.99	74.52	8.00	0.00
3	D&N Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	New Delhi	0.00	50.00	30.00	0.00
7	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	30.00	0.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>64.99</b>	<b>180.75</b>	<b>77.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>4384.49</b>	<b>4439.75</b>	<b>3456.06</b>	<b>3841.57</b>