

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 42
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.06.2019
Forest Fires

42. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE:
SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA:
DR. HEENA GAVIT:

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

- (a) the details of incidents of forest fire that have been reported from different parts of the country in recent months, along with the details of human lives lost/public properties and forest wealth damaged, State/ UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any investigation by any Independent Agency on the alarming rise of forest fires in the country, if so, the details and outcome thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has provided financial assistance to the States affected by forest fire and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has made any efforts to hold awareness campaign/ competition on local community level to prevent forest fires, if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to incentivise communities and forest departments and launch mass social movements to control forest fires, if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether the Government proposes to put in place any mechanism for quick response system for fighting forest fires and to incorporate new technology and involving the local community in firefighting and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

- (a) Yes Sir, whenever forest fire occurs, the Forest Survey of India sends fire alert to different States to control forest fire. The details of forest fire incidents that occurred since January 2019 to 16th June, 2019, as reported by Forest Survey of India, are as per Annexure-I.

As per report received from states, Himachal Pradesh has reported loss of forest property of Rs. 81.91 lakh and Uttarakhand has reported a loss of Rs. 55.08 lakh. No loss of human lives has been reported by Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. No other State has reported any such loss so far.

- (b) 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 forest fire prevention, detection, suppression, post-fire management, engaging with communities, coordination with other agencies etc.

The inputs from the study were used by the Ministry in preparation of National Action Plan on Forest Fire which was issued in April 2018.

- (c) Yes Sir. The Ministry has provided financial assistance to State/UT Governments affected by forest fire from the Forest Fire Prevention and Management Scheme. The amount disbursed to various states during the last three years (as on 31.03.2019) is given in Annexure-II.
- (d) The financial assistance under the Forest Fire Prevention and Management Scheme includes activities for awareness campaign/ competition of local community level to prevent forest fires. The State Forest Department undertakes activities of mass awareness and training of local communities to prevent forest fire.
- (e) The State/UT Forest Departments involve local communities, Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) and Eco-Development Committees (EDCs) etc. in various forest protection and conservation measures including prevention and control of forest fire.
- (f) The National Action Plan on Forest Fire provides for effective response to fire disaster resulting in reduced impact and quicker recovery as satellite based forest fire alerts already sent by FSI are in operation across the country. As per the National Action Plan on Forest Fire, provision for establishing a dedicated phone line and wireless network for early detection and quick response for fighting forest fire, establishment of watchtowers, ground crew station and location of fire station has been provided. National and State Disaster Response Forces, and army and paramilitary camps etc. are to be listed for quick response and access by the forest staff and local communities for forest fire control. Firefighting equipment provided at various places adjacent to the vulnerable forest fire prone areas will be utilized for quick response for fighting forest fire.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 42 DUE FOR 21.06.2019 REGARDING FOREST FIRE ASKED BY SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE, DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE, SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA, DR. HEENA GAVIT:

Number of forest fire detected by FSI using MODIS sensors (This includes large, continuous and repeated forest fires) during 2019 to various States/UT's

STATE	FOREST FIRE ALERTS (1 st January 2019 to 16 th June 2019)
ANDAMAN & NICOBAR Is.	6
ANDHRA PRADESH	1731
ARUNACHAL PRADESH	848
ASSAM	1893
BIHAR	200
CHANDIGARH	0
CHHATTISGARH	1581
DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI	0
DAMAN & DIU	0
DELHI	2
GOA	9
GUJARAT	206
HARYANA	14
HIMACHAL PRADESH	116
JAMMU & KASHMIR	35
JHARKHAND	354
KARNATAKA	1130
KERALA	191
LAKSHADWEEP	0
MADHYA PRADESH	2622
MAHARASHTRA	2302
MANIPUR	1729
MEGHALAYA	1511
MIZORAM	2793
NAGALAND	1000
ODISHA	1915
PUDUCHERRY	0
PUNJAB	33
RAJASTHAN	370
SIKKIM	9
TAMIL NADU	748
TELANGANA	1181
TRIPURA	1194
UTTAR PRADESH	784
UTTARAKHAND	1502
WEST BENGAL	243
TOTAL	28252

ANNEXURE-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (C&D) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 42 DUE FOR 21.06.2019 REGARDING FOREST FIRE ASKED BY SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE, DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE, SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA, DR. HEENA GAVIT:

(Rs. In Lakhs)

S. No.	States	2016-17 Released	2017-18 Released	2018-19 Released
Other States				
1	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	260.06
2	Bihar	88.59	75.00	57.17
3	Chhattisgarh	211.04	168.00	104.60
4	Gujarat	122.26	75.00	92.16
5	Goa	0.00	0.00	87.83
6	Haryana	93.91	75.00	0.00
7	Himachal Pradesh	331.36	276.70	0.00
8	Jammu & Kashmir	95.61	75.00	0.00
9	Jharkhand	199.63	105.00	107.84
10	Karnataka	203.27	105.00	174.70
11	Kerala	163.65	234.53	279.57
12	Madhya Pradesh	281.15	168.00	628.25
13	Maharashtra	372.58	321.58	787.28
14	Orissa	266.14	168.00	435.00
15	Punjab	0.00	75.00	0.00
16	Rajasthan	174.22	105.00	98.82
17	Tamil Nadu	74.29	105.00	0.00
18	Telangana	0.00	105.00	0.00
19	Uttar Pradesh	139.72	75.00	100.61
20	Uttarakhand	304.03	168.00	438.38
21	West Bengal	92.83	75.00	54.14
	Total	3214.28	2554.81	3706.41
NE & Sikkim				
1	Assam	0	0.00	93.23
2	Arunachal Pradesh	181.34	102.00	89.08
3	Manipur	125.02	219.88	230.54
4	Meghalaya	126.57	104.63	113.53
5	Mizoram	131.29	90.59	110.47
6	Nagaland	170.01	92.56	83.12
7	Sikkim	119.73	148.59	0.00
8	Tripura	190.76	66.00	109.73
	Total	1044.72	824.25	829.70
Union Territories				
1	A & N Islands	56.23	9.00	26.41
2	Chandigarh	74.52	8.00	1.00
3	D&N Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	New Delhi	50.00	30.00	0.00
7	Pondicherry	0.00	30.00	49.84
	Total	180.75	77.00	77.25
	Grand Total	4439.75	3456.06	4613.36
