

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2001**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.12.2022

**Forest Fires**

2001. SHRI ADALA PRABHAKARA REDDY:

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

- (a) whether the cases of forest fires in the country have increased during the last three years and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (b) whether any study has been conducted to ascertain the causal factors for the fires and if so, the details and the outcome thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any survey has been undertaken to estimate the loss of flora and fauna due to the fires and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to curb the recurrence of forest fires?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) & (b) The number of incidences of forest fire in the country varies from year to year depending on various natural and anthropogenic reasons. Forest fires do occur every year during summer due to various natural and anthropogenic reasons including accumulation of inflammable materials such as dry leaves, twigs, pine needles etc. These factors have also been highlighted in a joint study by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change and the World Bank. Most of the forest fires in the country are ground fires in which ground vegetation etc. get burnt. Further, the Forest Survey of India (FSI), an organization under the Ministry disseminates the satellite based forest fire alerts to the State Forest Departments and other registered mobile users whenever forest fires are detected. The State/UT-wise number of forest fire detected by FSI using Moderate Resolution imaging Spectro-Radiometer (MODIS) sensor aboard Aqua & Terra satellites and SNPP-VIIRS (Suomi National Polar-orbiting Partnership - Visible and Infrared Imager/Radiometer Suite) sensor in forest fire season during last three years is given in **Annexure-I**.

(c)& (d) The Ministry through Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) in collaboration with Forest Survey of India, Wildlife Institute of India, National

Institute of Hydrology and GB Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment & Sustainable Development has conducted a pilot study on Estimation of Economic Losses in Real Term per Hectare basis due to Forest Fire in Uttarakhand and Madhya Pradesh to understand the long-term economic and ecological impacts of forest fires on flora and fauna. Further, Forest fire prevention and its management is primarily the responsibility of concerned State Governments /UT Administration and respective States/ UTs undertake various activities under the Centrally Sponsored Forest Fire Prevention and Management Scheme, Integrated Development of Wildlife, and under CAMPA funds such as creation and maintenance of fire lines and water conservation structures inside forest areas, procurement of firefighting equipment, awareness creation, and incentivizing villages/communities for protection against forest fire etc. In addition, the Ministry has constituted Central Monitoring Committee to review the preparedness of States/UTs regarding Forest Fire Management across the country, and for overseeing the implementation of National Action Plan of Forest Fire.

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**Annexure-I****ANNEXURE REFERRED TO PART (A) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2001 DUE FOR REPLY ON 19.12.2022 REGARDING FOREST FIRES.**

State/UT-wise number of forest fire detected by Forest Survey of India using MODIS & SNPP-VIIRS sensors in the last three years. (This includes large, continuous and repeated forest fires)

S.No.	State/UT	MODIS Detections			SNPP-VIIRS Detections		
		Nov 2019 to June 2020	Nov 2020 to June 2021	Nov 2021 to June 2022	Nov 2019 to June 2020	Nov 2020 to June 2021	Nov 2021 to June 2022
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	15	2	3	39	16	33
2	Andhra Pradesh	1,080	2,888	1,716	9,996	19,328	14,138
3	Arunachal Pradesh	660	1,109	1,116	1,786	3,914	3,449
4	Assam	3,000	3,387	2,305	8,924	10,718	8,158
5	Bihar	50	537	222	614	5,179	3,024
6	Chandigarh	0	0	0	2	0	0
7	Chhattisgarh	416	3,112	1,942	6,360	38,106	25,792
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	3	1	21	33	15
9	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	1	3
10	Delhi	3	5	5	21	14	3
11	Goa	4	10	5	47	45	20
12	Gujarat	202	422	236	2,770	3,803	2,769
13	Haryana	39	25	37	68	152	135
14	Himachal Pradesh	80	533	601	536	4,110	5,280
15	Jammu & Kashmir including Ladakh	62	131	524	438	1,098	4,282
16	Jharkhand	101	1,563	630	2,613	21,713	9,419
17	Karnataka	538	932	800	4,232	5,784	4,973
18	Kerala	142	51	61	864	296	504
19	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	1,383	7,103	3,908	9,537	47,795	32,728
21	Maharashtra	1,102	4,297	2,309	14,018	34,025	22,052
22	Manipur	2,475	3,252	1,638	8,800	10,457	5,544
23	Meghalaya	1,826	2,052	1,431	6,762	7,658	6,322
24	Mizoram	2,816	4,345	2,105	7,361	12,846	8,734
25	Nagaland	1,248	1,726	1,309	2,905	4,975	3,471
26	Odisha	1,326	5,307	2,086	10,602	51,968	22,014
27	Puducherry	1	1	0	0	1	0
28	Punjab	52	171	128	153	635	428
29	Rajasthan	420	447	238	3,461	3,402	2,703
30	Sikkim	5	17	11	47	63	26
31	Tamil Nadu	187	202	151	1,368	1,220	1,035
32	Telangana	1,042	2,566	1,372	12,132	18,237	13,737
33	Tripura	1,467	1,664	310	4,369	5,015	2,609
34	Uttar Pradesh	396	1,667	905	1,548	8,608	5,428
35	Uttarakhand	167	2,710	1,337	759	21,487	12,985
36	West Bengal	141	548	233	1,320	3,287	1,520
<b>Total</b>		<b>22,447</b>	<b>52,785</b>	<b>29,675</b>	<b>1,24,473</b>	<b>3,45,989</b>	<b>2,23,333</b>

