

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1167
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.12.2023

Illegal Forest Logging

1167. SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:
SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE

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

- (a) whether the illegal forest logging has adversely affected the environment;
- (b) if so, the percentage of decline in the forest cover as on date during the last five years, State-wise;
- (c) whether the illegal forest logging has drastically reduced the forest density in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has taken any steps to prevent the illegal forest logging and if so, the details of the concrete action taken against the forest/ wood mafia; and
- (e) the funds allocated for this purpose during the last five years, State/UT-wise including Maharashtra?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) Protection and management of forests is primarily the responsibility of the State and UT Governments Administrations. There are strong legal frameworks for protection and management of forests under various acts and rules such as Indian Forest Act, 1927, Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and the State Governments / UT Administrations take appropriate actions in accordance with the provisions made under these Acts/ Rules.

The Forest Survey of India (FSI), Dehradun, has been carrying out the assessment of forest cover of the country biennially, and the findings are published in India State of Forest Report (ISFR). As per ISFR 2021, the total forest cover of the country is 7,13,789 square kilometre which is 21.71% of the geographical area of the country. The trend for the last three ISFRs shows an increase in Forest cover of the country. The forest cover has increased by 3,976 square kilometre between ISFR 2017 and ISFR 2019 assessment while there is an increase of 1,540 square kilometre between ISFR 2019 and ISFR 2021 assessment. The State wise details of change in Forest Cover between ISFR 2017, ISFR 2019 and ISFR 2021 are given in **Annexure-I**

(d) and (e) The State/UT Government take various actions for protection of forests from illegal forest logging including, strengthening surveillance and patrolling, establishing forest check posts and augmenting infrastructure and involving local communities in protection and conservation of forests.

The Ministry provides technical and financial assistance to States and UTs under various Schemes namely, Development of Wildlife Habitats, Project Tiger and Project Elephant which have components for forest protection. The overall funds released under these schemes are mentioned at **Annexure-II, III and IV**.

**Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) to (c) of the Lok Sabha UnStarred Question No. 1167
due for reply on 11.12.2023 by Shri Gajanan Kirtikar and Shri Krupal Balaji Tumane
regarding “Illegal Forest Logging”**

State/UTs wise details of change in Forest Cover from ISFR 2017 to ISFR 2021

(Area in Square Kilometre)

States/UTs	Geographical area	Forest Cover			Change in Forest Cover between ISFR 2017 & ISFR 2019 (b-a)	Percentage (%) Change in Forest Cover between ISFR 2019 & ISFR 2021 (c-b)
		ISFR 2017 (a)	ISFR 2019 (b)	ISFR 2021 (c)		
Andhra Pradesh	1,62,968	28,147	29,137	29,784	1,637	5.82
Arunachal Pradesh	83,743	66,964	66,688	66,431	-533	-0.80
Assam	78,438	28,105	28,327	28,312	207	0.74
Bihar	94,163	7,299	7,306	7,381	82	1.12
Chhattisgarh	1,35,192	55,547	55,611	55,717	170	0.31
Delhi	1,483	192.41	195.44	195	3	1.35
Goa	3,702	2,229	2,237	2,244	15	0.67
Gujarat	1,96,244	14,757	14,857	14,926	169	1.15
Haryana	44,212	1,588	1,602	1,603	15	0.94
Himachal Pradesh	55,673	15,100	15,434	15,443	343	2.27
Jharkhand	79,716	23,553	23,611	23,721	168	0.71
Karnataka	1,91,791	37,550	38,575	38,730	1,180	3.14
Kerala	38,852	20,321	21,144	21,253	932	4.59
Madhya Pradesh	3,08,252	77,414	77,482	77,493	79	0.10
Maharashtra	3,07,713	50,682	50,778	50,798	116	0.23
Manipur	22,327	17,346	16,847	16,598	-748	-4.31
Meghalaya	22,429	17,146	17,119	17,046	-100	-0.58
Mizoram	21,081	18,186	18,006	17,820	-366	-2.01
Nagaland	16,579	12,489	12,486	12,251	-238	-1.91
Odisha	1,55,707	51,345	51,619	52,156	811	1.58
Punjab	50,362	1,837	1,849	1,847	10	0.54
Rajasthan	3,42,239	16,572	16,630	16,655	83	0.50
Sikkim	7,096	3,344	3,342	3,341	-3	-0.09
Tamil Nadu	1,30,060	26,281	26,364	26,419	138	0.53
Telangana	1,12,077	20,419	20,582	21,214	795	3.89
Tripura	10,486	7,726	7,726	7,722	-4	-0.05
Uttar Pradesh	2,40,928	14,679	14,806	14,818	139	0.95
Uttarakhand	53,483	24,295	24,303	24,305	10	0.04
West Bengal	88,752	16,847	16,902	16,832	-15	-0.09
A&N Islands	8,249	6,742	6,743	6,744	2	0.03
Chandigarh	114	21.56	22.03	22.88	1	6.12
Dadra & Nagar Haveli *	491	207	207	227.75	0.26	0.11
Daman & Diu *	111	20.49	20.49			
Jammu & Kashmir*	2,22,236	23,241	21,358	21,387	418	1.80
Ladakh			2,254	2,272		
Lakshadweep	30	27.10	27.10	27.10	0.00	0.00
Puducherry	490	53.67	52.41	53.30	-0.37	-0.70
Grand Total	32,87,469	7,08,273	7,12,249	7,13,789	5,516	0.78

* From ISFR 2019 onwards Jammu & Kashmir was divided into two UTs viz. Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

*From ISFR 2021 onwards Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu have been combined into one UT.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (e) of the Lok Sabha UnStarred Question No. 1167 due for reply on 11.12.2023 by Shri Gajanan Kirtikar and Shri Krupal Balaji Tumane regarding “Illegal Forest Logging”

The details of fund released under ‘Development of Wildlife Habitats’ during last five years.

(Rs. in Crores)

S.No.	Name of States/UTs	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
1	A& N Islands	1.9100	1.3264	0	1.3577	0.25125
2	Andhra Pradesh	0.7500	0	0	0	0
3	Arunachal Pradesh	3.4442	5.1269	3.1258	4.1980	2.7644
4	Assam	2.6532	1.6426	0	0	2.0914
5	Bihar	7.4900	1.4814	2.0516	4.1085	0
6	Chandigarh	0	0	0.2516	0	0.2162
7	Chhattisgarh	3.5061	3.1003	1.0435	2.7459	1.0445
8	Goa	0	1.1165	0	0	0
9	Gujarat	22.3200	0	1.2458	0	2.0001
10	Haryana	1.5500	2.3760	0.1822	1.2733	0.3015
11	Himachal Pradesh	3.7030	3.7576	1.8763	1.9709	1.1432
12	Jammu & Kashmir	4.9243	0	0.8062	0	0
13	Jharkhand	0.5051	0.9396	1.9822	0.7953	0
14	Karnataka	6.5300	7.3904	5.8612	12.5659	2.9171
15	Kerala	12.9340	8.4502	7.3128	2.9577	2.2447
16	Madhya Pradesh	9.1220	6.2926	8.01601	3.8934	2.6555
17	Maharashtra	10.3120	7.1578	1.4608	0	3.5038
18	Manipur	4.0560	3.9645	2.4112	1.4250	1.8064
19	Meghalaya	3.1200	2.3883	2.6350	5.3051	0
20	Mizoram	4.3000	4.3179	3.3960	1.9896	1.9019
21	Nagaland	8.8220	9.5369	2.6000	3.4203	7.2565
22	Odisha	4.9900	7.0150	6.9750	7.2680	9.6749
23	Rajasthan	5.8500	7.4131	3.0912	10.0764	0.8678
24	Sikkim	3.9400	5.5735	3.4962	1.8297	2.3966
25	Tamil Nadu	3.8410	4.0950	3.3403	3.9075	1.3295
26	Telangana	0	0	0.3659	0	0
27	Uttar Pradesh	1.1981	4.2625	3.1292	1.6906	2.6674
28	Uttarakhand	17.6410	14.0119	4.4161	2.2634	2.1296
29	West Bengal	9.606	8.9107	7.1061	7.5725	2.0130
30	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0
31	Lakshadweep	0.4630	1.9327	4.6240	4.6208	2.6990
32	Delhi	5.5190	0	0	0	0
33	Tripura	0	0.9031	2.6067	0	0
34	Ladakh UT	0	0	2.2317	0.3195	0.6111
	Grand Total	165.00	124.4842	87.6418	87.5559	56.4884

Annexure-III

Annexure referred to in reply to part (e) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1167 due for reply on 11.12.2023 by Shri Gajanan Kirtikar and Shri Krupal Balaji Tumane regarding “Illegal Forest Logging”

The details of fund released under ‘Project Tiger’ during last five years.

(Rs. in Crores)

Sl. No.	State	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
1	Andhra Pradesh	2.17992	1.1448	2.6651	2.9211	0.00
2	Arunachal Pradesh	9.29762	8.4631	8.0376	8.6908	7.8719
3	Assam	19.1962	21.9876	25.1390	14.7675	25.5978
4	Bihar	5.70897	5.6284	6.2889	5.5272	2.4690
5	Chhattisgarh	5.36135	3.5853	4.7116	3.5585	1.6575
6	Jharkhand	3.6700	14.3207	1.2845	1.9506	2.2775
7	Karnataka	22.6742	22.5203	21.1801	29.5670	17.1692
8	Kerala	6.5303	6.0707	4.0288	8.6878	4.1759
9	Madhya Pradesh	53.4389	35.0191	25.5126	35.2352	39.5688
10	Maharashtra	110.4959	72.2039	30.9803	29.9106	8.0962
11	Mizoram	3.18842	3.3770	1.6153	3.7413	0.7875
12	Odisha	10.2232	13.0332	6.8007	10.5686	9.4682
13	Rajasthan	7.9183	12.0319	10.0889	8.4105	5.2978
14	Tamil Nadu	23.6682	15.8691	13.3614	15.7622	5.0135
15	Telangana	11.1565	3.5991	3.5197	5.4326	0.00
16	Uttarakhand	6.8533	22.8918	16.7130	14.6371	7.4113
17	Uttar Pradesh	14.1726	12.4249	9.2329	13.0485	9.1996
18	West Bengal	7.1901	7.5847	3.3396	7.0828	4.5877
	Total	322.9241	281.7556	194.5000	219.4999	150.6494

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The details of fund released under ‘Project Elephant’ during last five years.

(Rs. in Crores)

Sl. No	State/UTs	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
1	Andhra Pradesh	0.29016	1.2703	0.7728	0.2055	0.00
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	1.0326	2.8225	1.5776	0.2688
3	Assam	3.54351	0.00	0.3528	1.2671	1.6740
4	Chhattisgarh	0.6528	0.00	0.00	0.2478	0.00
5	Jharkhand	1.1646	1.6144	1.1186	0.8668	0.7805
6	Karnataka	3.5391	4.1248	3.3040	2.6119	0.9784
7	Kerala	4.6669	4.3213	5.7456	5.8096	2.4105
8	Maharashtra	0.4653	0.4419	0.1798	0.00	0.2852
9	Meghalaya	2.1787	1.7789	0.0936	1.4175	0.3214
10	Nagaland	1.4121	2.1394	0.9250	2.7975	2.3557
11	Odisha	1.9728	3.8703	5.7799	5.6704	2.1276
12	Tamil Nadu	3.8310	2.7515	0.00	1.8184	0.8594
13	Tripura	0.4392	0.4538	0.2471	0.00	0.7365
14	Uttar Pradesh	0.2024	0.3774	0.00	0.45993	0.0985
15	Uttarakhand	1.9216	4.1731	2.0485	2.44123	0.18741
16	West Bengal	0.8394	1.1325	0.6419	0.87871	0.30053
17	Haryana	0.0838	0.1680	0.1104	0.04234	0.1740
18	Bihar	1.65323	0.57027	0.3908	0.00	0.00
19	Rajasthan	0.12659	0.3528	0.00	0.1518	0.06186
20	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
21	Madhya Pradesh	0.04757	0.13695	0.00	0.12613	0.1138
22	Manipur	0.09072	0.10944	0.00	0.0540	0.00
