

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1251**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.12.2023

**Forest Fire Prevention and Management**

1251. SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU:  
SHRI RAHUL RAMESH SHEWALE:  
DR. PRITAM GOPINATHRAO MUNDE:

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

- (a) whether the allocation of Annual Plan for forest fire prevention and management activities for the Financial Year 2023-24 has been finalised;
- (b) if so, the details of funds allocated and released so far to various States particularly to Odisha and Maharashtra;
- (c) whether Compensatory Afforestation (CA) is required on degraded notified or unclassified forest land, twice the extent of the diverted forest area, exclusively for projects carried out by Central Government Agencies or Central Public Sector Undertakings;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether these provisions will be extended to include State PSUs and State Government Agencies; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, particularly Maharashtra and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) and (b) The total Budget Estimate (BE) under Forest Fire Prevention and Management Scheme for the financial year 2023-24 is Rs. 51 Crores out of which Rs.36.2867 crores have been released to State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. The sanction orders for release of fund have been released based on the Utilization of funds by the State/ UT Government and on submission of Utilization certificates against the expenditure incurred.

The details of funds released to all State/UT Governments including Odisha and Maharashtra from last two years up to till date is given in **Annexure-I**.

(c) to (f) As per the previous contained in the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 notified by the Central Government on 29.11.2023, the Compensatory Afforestation is to be raised over land which is neither notified as forest under the Indian Forest Act, 1927 (16 of 1927) or any other law nor managed as forest by the Forest Department.

Further, in exceptional circumstances there is a provision to consider the Compensatory Afforestation on degraded forest land which is twice in extent to the area proposed to be diverted in case of the State Public Sector Undertaking for captive coal blocks and the Central Government agencies on case to case basis.

The revenue forest lands which are not notified as forest under any law and not managed by the Forest Department, the degraded Unclassed State Forest in the State of Arunachal Pradesh, the waste lands in the State of Himachal Pradesh falling under the category of Protected Forest which have been neither been demarcated on the ground nor transferred and mutated in the name of forest department in the revenue records can also be considered for Compensatory Afforestation in case of non-availability of non- Forest land. In these cases also the area for Compensatory Afforestation has to be at least double in extent of the area being diverted. Special dispensation for raising compensatory afforestation over degraded forest land, minimum double in extent of the area diverted, has also been provided in case of the States or Union territory Administrations, having forest area more than 33% of their total geographical area provided that a certificate on non-availability of suitable non-forest land for raising compensatory afforestation is furnished by the State Government /Union territory Administration in the specified format.

The dispensation for raising compensatory afforestation over degraded forest land, minimum double in extent of area diverted is also provided in case of following proposals:

- (a) transmission line projects;
- (b) laying of telephone or optical fibre lines;
- (c) mulberry plantation undertaken for silkworm rearing;
- (d) extraction of minor materials from the river beds;
- (e) construction of link roads, small water works, minor irrigation works, school building, dispensaries, hospital, tiny rural industrial sheds of the Government or any other similar work excluding mining and encroachment cases, which directly benefit the people of the area in hill districts and in other districts having forest area exceeding 50% of the total geographical area, provided diversion of forest area does not exceed 5 hectares;
- (g) actual impact zone of the field firing range considered for diversion under the Adhinyam or 10% of the total forest area diverted in case entire area of the field firing range is proposed for diversion.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Annexure-I**

**Annexure referred to in reply to part (a)& (b) of the Lok Sabha Un-Starred Question No. 1251 due for reply on 11.12.2023 by Shri Chandra Sekhar Sahu, Shri Rahul Ramesh Shewale and Dr. Pritam Gopinathrao Munde regarding “Forest Fire Prevention and Management”**

Details of fund released to State/UT’s under Centrally Sponsored Forest Fire Prevention & Management Scheme during the last two years and till date.

(Rs. In Crores)

S. No.	States	2021-22 Amount Released	2022-23 Amount Released	2023-24 Amount Released (as on 20.11.2023)
<b>Other States</b>				
1	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	-
2	Bihar	0.00	0.3962	1.428
3	Chhattisgarh	1.4055	0.00	0.732
4	Gujarat	0.998	0.00	0.707
5	Goa	0.5730	0.00	0.180
6	Haryana	0.00	0.00	0.175
7	Himachal Pradesh	1.1617	1.1329	1.808
8	Jharkhand	1.3615	0.0169	0.478
9	Karnataka	1.5733	0.8738	0.528
10	Kerala	3.6288	4.4431	3.540
11	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	6.3548	7.750
<b>12</b>	<b>Maharashtra</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>3.9599</b>	-
13	Odisha	8.3983	3.3880	1.471
14	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.367
15	Rajasthan	1.2721	0.3347	0.507
16	Tamil Nadu	2.3890	0.00	2.894
17	Telangana	0.00	0.00	1.526
18	Uttar Pradesh	1.1179	0.00	0.440
19	Uttarakhand	3.5436	1.3393	3.379
20	West Bengal	1.3273	0.00	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>28.75</b>	<b>22.2396</b>	<b>27.916</b>
<b>NE &amp; Sikkim</b>				
1	Assam	0.00	0.00	-
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.8977	1.9812	1.981
3	Manipur	0.8653	1.0661	1.066
4	Meghalaya	0.00	0.3817	0.467
5	Mizoram	0.8719	0.3087	0.481
6	Nagaland	0.6452	0.2882	2.883
7	Sikkim	0.8973	0.4791	0.964
8	Tripura	0.8226	0.4748	0.476
	<b>Total</b>	<b>5.00</b>	<b>4.9798</b>	<b>8.320</b>
<b>Union Territories</b>				
1	A & N Islands	0.00	0.60	-
2	Chandigarh	0.5072	0.00	0.0497
3	D&N Haveli	0.00	0.00	-
4	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	-
5	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	0.00	-
6	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	-
7	New Delhi	0.00	0.00	-
8	Pondicherry	0.00	0.4340	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0.5072</b>	<b>1.034</b>	<b>0.0497</b>
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>34.2572</b>	<b>28.2534</b>	<b>36.2867</b>

\*\*\*\*\*