

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1897
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.11.2019

Reserved Forest Land

1897. SHRI NIHAL CHAND:

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

- (a) the details of such forest land declared as reserved in the country, State/ UT-wise along with Rajasthan;
- (b) the total quantum of land out of the reserved forest lands that have been encroached upon during the last five years, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether any steps have been taken by the Government to evict the encroached forest land from illegal occupation; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)

- (a) The details of State/UTs wise Recorded Forest Area as reported by State/UTs Forest Department and published in the India State of Forest Report-2017 is given in **Annexure-I**.
- (b) As per the information provided by the State/UTs, details of forest area under encroachment alongwith percentage are given in **Annexure-II**.
- (c) & (d) Protection of forests from various threats, including encroachment, is primarily the responsibility of the respective State/ UT Governments as per the existing Acts/Rules. The State Forest Departments also issue directions to field officers/staff for regular patrolling and take action against encroachers of forest land remove encroachments, if any, as per extant law.

Government of India issues advisories to the States/UTs to remove encroachment on forest land. Funds are provided to States/UTs for forest protection measures such as survey and demarcation of forest boundaries, fixing of boundary pillars etc under the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016 and Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rules, 2018, funds.

Annexure I

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1897 due for answer on 29.11.2019 regarding 'Reserved Forest Land'

Recorded Forest Areas in States and UTs as per ISFR-2017

(Area in square kilometre)

State/ UT	Geographical Area (GA)	Recorded Forest Areas (RFA)			Total RFA (2017)	% of GA
		Reserved Forests (RF)	Protected Forests (PF)	Unclassified Forests		
Andhra Pradesh	162968	31,959	5069	230	37258	22.86
Arunachal Pradesh	83,743	10,589	9,779	31,039	51,407	61.39
Assam	78,438	17,864	0	8,968	26,832	34.21
Bihar	94163	693	6183	1	6877	7.30
Chhattisgarh	135192	25,782	24036	9954	59772	44.21
Delhi	1,483	78	24	0	102	6.88
Goa	3,702	253	0	972	1225	33.09
Gujarat	196,244	14,373	2886	4388	21647	11.03
Haryana	44,212	249	1158	152	1559	3.53
Himachal Pradesh	55,673	1,898	33130	2005	37033	66.52
Jammu & Kashmir	222,236	17,643	2551	36	20230	9.10
Jharkhand	79,716	4,387	19185	33	23605	29.61
Karnataka	191,791	28,690	3931	5663	38284	19.96
Kerala	38,852	11,309	0	0	11309	29.11
Madhya Pradesh	308,252	61,886	31098	1705	94689	30.72
Maharashtra	307,713	49,546	6733	5300	61579	20.01
Manipur	22,327	1,467	4,171	11,780	17,418	78.01
Meghalaya	22,429	1,113	12	8,371	9,496	42.34
Mizoram	21,081	4,483	0	1,158	5,641	26.76
Nagaland	16,579	234	0	8,389	8,623	52.01
Odisha	155,707	36049	25133	22	61204	39.31
Punjab	50,362	44	1137	1903	3084	6.12
Rajasthan	342,239	12475	18217	2045	32737	9.57
Sikkim	7,096	5452	389	0	5,841	82.31
Tamil Nadu	130,060	20293	1782	802	22877	17.59
Telangana	112,077	20353	5939	612	26904	24.00
Tripura	10,486	4175	2	2,117	6,294	60.02
Uttar Pradesh	240,928	12071	1157	3354	16582	6.88
Uttarakhand	53,483	26547	9885	1568	38000	71.05
West Bengal	88,752	7054	3772	1053	11879	13.38
A&N Islands	8,249	5613	1558	0	7171	86.93
Chandigarh	114	32	0	3	35	30.70
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	491	199	5	0	204	41.55
Daman & Diu	111	0	0	8	8	7.21
Lakshadweep	30	0	0	0	0	0.00
Puducherry	490	0	2	11	13	2.65
Total	32,87,469	4,34,705	2,19,432	1,13,881	7,67,419	23.34

Source: State/UT Forest Departments

Annexure II

Annexure referred to in reply to part (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1897 due for answer on 29.11.2019 regarding 'Reserved Forest Land'

State/UTs wise details of area under encroachment

(Area in Square kilometre)

S. No.	Name of States/UTs	Encroachment of forest land	% of total Recorded Forest Area
1	Andhra Pradesh	16.9072	0.045
2	Bihar	1.3221	0.019
3	Chhattisgarh	193.3064	0.323
4	Gujarat	347.91	1.607
5	Goa	Nil	Nil
6	Haryana	0.1753	0.011
7	Himachal Pradesh	23.3902	0.063
8	Jharkhand	264.96	1.122
9	Jammu & Kashmir	102.7928	0.508
10	Karnataka	280.0123	0.731
11	Kerala	78.0110	0.689
12	Madhya Pradesh	5347.1728	5.647
13	Maharashtra	605.0413	0.982
14	Odisha	785.0508	1.282
15	Punjab	81.7531	2.650
16	Rajasthan	108.3976	0.331
17	Tamil Nadu	150.4157	0.657
18	Telangana	30.56	0.113
19	Uttar Pradesh	261.2535	1.575
20	Uttarakhand	106.4911	0.280
21	West Bengal	102.1480	0.859
22	Arunachal Pradesh	586.3613	1.140
23	Assam	3172.1539	11.822
24	Manipur	67.2651	0.386
25	Meghalaya	0.1397	0.001
26	Mizoram	0.08	0.001
27	Nagaland	24.7996	0.287
28	Sikkim	28.1721	0.482
29	Tripura	0.0677	0.000
30	A & N Islands	40.6869	0.567
31	Chandigarh	Nil	Nil
32	D&N Haveli	0.0008	0.000
33	Daman & Diu	0.8783	10.978
34	Lakshadweep	Nil	Nil
35	Delhi	6.2951	6.171
36	Puducherry	Nil	Nil