

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 944**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.11.2019

**Land Reserved for Forests**

944. SHRI DEVUSINH JESINGBHAI CHAUHAN:

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

- (a) the total area of land reserved for forests in Gujarat, district-wise;
- (b) the number of people illegally residing on the forest land for several years, district-wise;
- (c) whether the Government is formulating/has formulated any policy to allot pattas to these people for construction of houses and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, whether the Government proposes to evict these people from the forest land; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) Forest Survey of India, Dehradun, an organization under the Ministry carries out the assessment of forest cover of the country biennially and the findings are published in India State of Forest Report (ISFR). As per the latest report i.e. ISFR- 2017, the total recorded forest area in Gujarat State is 21859.22 square kilometre. The district-wise break up of forest area is given in **Annexure-I**.
- (b) As per the information received from the State of Gujarat, the district-wise statement of individuals who were claimants of forest land is given in **Annexure II**.
- (c) As per information received from the State of Gujarat, 88226 claimants have been given titles, that include the claims for house construction. Separate data for claims for construction of houses is not maintained by the State Government.
- (d) & (e) The Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006, provides a framework for recording the forest rights so vested and the nature of evidence required for such recognition and vesting in respect of forest land in respect of member or members of a forest dwelling Scheduled Tribe or other traditional forest dwellers who have been residing in such forests for generations but whose rights could not be recorded. As per the information from the State of Gujarat, such cases of allowing rights/allotting pattas are considered after scrutiny under the said Act.

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**Annexure I**

**Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 944 due for answer on 22.11.2019 regarding 'Land Reserved for Forests'**

**Details of District wise forest area in Gujarat.**

| <b>Sl.No.</b> | <b>Name of District</b> | <b>Forest area (in square kilometre)</b> |
|---------------|-------------------------|--|
| 1             | Ahmedabad               | 106.82                                   |
| 2             | Amreli                  | 339.93                                   |
| 3             | Anand                   | 0.00                                     |
| 4             | Banaskantha             | 1107.2178                                |
| 5             | Bharuch                 | 245.8438                                 |
| 6             | Bhavnagar               | 255.4500                                 |
| 7             | Dahod                   | 884.15                                   |
| 8             | Dang                    | 1034.68                                  |
| 9             | Gandhinagar             | 24.96                                    |
| 10            | Jamnagar                | 1081.39                                  |
| 11            | Junagadh                | 1572.27                                  |
| 12            | Kutch                   | 5638.7478                                |
| 13            | Kheda                   | 21.05                                    |
| 14            | Mehsana                 | 71.52                                    |
| 15            | Narmada                 | 1142.9185                                |
| 16            | Navsari                 | 264.4444                                 |
| 17            | Panchmahal              | 685.76                                   |
| 18            | Patan                   | 484.64                                   |
| 19            | Porbandar               | 246.90                                   |
| 20            | Rajkot                  | 170.94                                   |
| 21            | Sabarkantha             | 815.03                                   |
| 22            | Surat                   | 496.7229                                 |
| 23            | Surendranagar           | 406.8194                                 |
| 24            | Tapi                    | 907.61                                   |
| 25            | Vadodara                | 20.83                                    |
| 26            | Valsad                  | 937.5281                                 |
| 27            | Chhotaudepur            | 720.71                                   |
| 28            | Morbi                   | 375.6055                                 |
| 29            | Dev Bhumi Dwarka        | 509.01                                   |
| 30            | Botad                   | 35.6714                                  |
| 31            | Gir Somnath             | 189.01                                   |
| 32            | Mahisagar               | 616.47                                   |
| 33            | Aravalli                | 448.57                                   |
|               | <b>Total</b>            | <b>21859.22</b>                          |

**Annexure II**

**Annexure referred to in reply to part (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 944 due for answer on 22.11.2019 regarding ‘Land Reserved for Forests’**

**Details of individual claims under Forest Right Act (FRA)-2006**

| <b>Sl.No.</b> | <b>Name of District</b> | <b>Claims Made</b> | <b>Claims Approved</b> | <b>Claims Rejected</b> | <b>Titles Distributed</b> |
|---------------|-------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1             | Banas Kantha            | 9488               | 6611                   | 2877                   | 6611                      |
| 2             | Sabarkantha             | 11928              | 2628                   | 9300                   | 2619                      |
| 3             | Arvalli                 | 7697               | 4089                   | 3615                   | 4089                      |
| 4             | Panch mahal             | 11672              | 3232                   | 4536                   | 2608                      |
| 5             | Mahisagar               | 11994              | 3950                   | 2718                   | 3950                      |
| 6             | Dahod                   | 20150              | 3453                   | 16697                  | 3453                      |
| 7             | Chota udepur            | 17557              | 6667                   | 0                      | 6667                      |
| 8             | Narmada                 | 17783              | 8576                   | 64                     | 8576                      |
| 9             | Bharuch                 | 4076               | 2034                   | 2042                   | 2034                      |
| 12            | Surat                   | 7745               | 4072                   | 3675                   | 4072                      |
| 11            | Tapi                    | 77947              | 8104                   | 0                      | 8104                      |
| 12            | Dang                    | 7341               | 3207                   | 4109                   | 3207                      |
| 13            | Navsari                 | 9322               | 3950                   | 4044                   | 3950                      |
| 14            | Valsad                  | 28286              | 28286                  | 5881                   | 28286                     |
|               | <b>Total</b>            | <b>176986</b>      | <b>88859</b>           | <b>59558</b>           | <b>88226</b>              |

