

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2678
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.03.2020

Incidents of Forest Fire

2678. SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV:
SHRI GOPAL CHINNAYA SHETTY:

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

- (a) the number of incidents of forest fires occurred during the last three years along with the total land destroyed in hectares and the monetary loss incurred due to forest fires, State-wise;
- (b) whether the incidents of repeated fires have increased, especially in the forest in mountainous areas and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any investigation has been undertaken to inquire into any notoriety in forest fires to encroach forest land and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether there is any proposal to set up an independent agency to assess the actual loss and to set a budget for compensation; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

- (a) &(b) The number of incidents of forest fire in the country varies from year to year depending on various natural and anthropogenic reasons. As reported by State and Union Territories, details of forest fires in the last three years are given in Annexure.
- (c) Ministry in collaboration with the World Bank has conducted a study on Situation Analysis of Forest Fire and released a study report titled “Strengthening Forest Fire Management in India” which contains various recommendations regarding forest fire prevention, detection, suppression, post-fire management, engaging with communities, coordination with other agencies etc. Inputs from the study were used by the Ministry in preparation of National Action Plan on Forest Fire which has been circulated to all State/UTs in April,2018 to take appropriate action so as to minimize forest fires by informing, enabling and empowering forest fringe communities and incentivizing them to work in tandem with the Forest Departments, reducing the vulnerability of forests across the diverse forest ecosystems in the country against fire hazards, enhancing the capabilities of forest personnel and institutions in fighting fires, and speeding up recovery after a fire event.

- (d) &(e) Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education (ICFRE), Dehradun has been entrusted to carry out a “Study on Estimation of Economic losses in Real Term per Hectare Basis due to Forest Fire in Uttarakhand and Madhya Pradesh” 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 for estimation of economic losses in real term per hectare basis due to forest fire in Uttarakhand and Madhya Pradesh.

Annexure referred to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2678 due for 06.03.2020 regarding 'Incidents of Forest Fire'

Details of Forest Fire

S. No.	State/Union Territory	2017		2018		2019	
		No. of Incidents Reported	Area Affected (in ha.)	No. of Incidents Reported	Area Affected (in ha.)	No. of Incidents Reported	Area Affected (in ha.)
1	Andhra Pradesh	8274	7554.79	16171	8449.47	6778	3591.13
2	Arunachal Pradesh	18	10.5	28	11	13	0
3	Assam	2405	26	2200	5.5	40	18.1
4	Bihar	581	860.33	293	438.08	490	1048
5	Chhattisgarh	33179	20062	23091	11712	17506	12697
6	Goa	47	130.8	38	113.29	10	0
7	Gujarat	1276	6141.40	976	3605.77	490	1336.32
8	Haryana	81	325	213	815	28	145
9	Himachal Pradesh	1164	9408.09	2544	25859.16	1241	6686.12
10	J & K	444	1190.76	429	906.66	315	2095.99
11	Jharkhand	1043	1820.2	664	975.34	7501	486.23
12	Karnataka	925	6976.85	985	3160	169	1350
13	Kerala	737	2989	315	1059	581	1788
14	Madhya Pradesh	5840	17038.81	3490	11177.25	3221	13523
15	Maharashtra	5889	32063.61	8464	45289.53	6223	29820.50
16	Manipur	2711	Not Assessed	5716	Not Assessed	11	Not Assessed
17	Meghalaya	142	520.00	734	81.2	1054	132.13
18	Mizoram	32	238.73	20	135.45	12	60
19	Nagaland	1	0.00	0	0	0	0
20	Odisha	36827	14121.10	31680	9730.06	19787	7164.95
21	Punjab	131	1327.15	693	4459.39	69	118.16
22	Rajasthan	140	3648.4	260	3356.47	394	5316.30
23	Sikkim	62	328.71	53	305.5	23	95
24	Tamil Nadu	711	1345.12	1153	2104.10	1605	2023.83
25	Telangana	3390	126346	13002	166202	13900	163437
26	Tripura	58	120.64	76	150.42	3	15
27	Uttar Pradesh	250	696.26	661	528.83	674	466
28	Uttarakhand	790	1288.04	2148	4478.54	2150	2972.30
29	West Bengal	263	1377.27	688	1799.17	124	324.60
30	A & N Island	9	16.50	6	10.28	0	0
31	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0
32	D & N Haveli	14	0	13	0	0	0
33	Delhi	12	104.96	15	70.91	5	0
34	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
36	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0

Details of estimated loss

(i) Some States have reported estimated losses due to forest fires as per table given below:

S. No.	States	2017	2018	2019
		Estimated Loss (in Rs. lakhs)	Estimated Loss (in Rs. lakhs)	Estimated Loss (in Rs. lakhs)
1	Assam	3.52	0.18	1.67
2	Gujarat	23.06	16.21	5.52
3	Himachal Pradesh	196.41	325.00	122.10
4	Kerala	0.42	1.45	1.45
5	Maharashtra	42.07	70.39	54.51
6	Meghalaya	7.20	Not Assessed	Not Assessed
7	Nagaland	0.10	0.00	0.00
8	Punjab	15.51	9.13	1.09
9	Rajasthan	9.21	57.67	12.07
10	Uttar Pradesh	8.21	0.27	0.21
11	Uttarakhand	21.25	86.05	55.72
12	West Bengal	76.20	29.59	5.32

(ii) States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Haryana, J&K, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Tripura and 7 UTs viz. Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Delhi, Daman & Diu, Lakshdweep and Puducherry have reported that most of the fires are ground fires in which only dried leaves etc got burnt and there is no considerable damage.

(iii) Manipur and Odisha have reported that losses due to forest fires are not assessed.
