

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2022
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.02.2021

Decrease in Area of Dense Forest

2022. SHRI A. NARAYANA SWAMY:

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

- (a) whether the area of dense forest in the country has decreased and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the area which was earmarked as dense forest during the last five years, Year-wise and State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether any State-wise report on environment degradation and water deficiency of arid/acute drought prone districts is available and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has launched any special projects which make afforestation in the arid/ drought prone regions, mandatory and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other measures being taken by the Government to increase the area of dense forest across the country?

ANSWER

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

- (a) & (b) No Sir, as per latest India State of Forest Report (ISFR)-2019 prepared by Forest Survey of India, Dehradun, the total dense forest of the country is 4,07,750square kilometre (km²). The ISFR-2019 shows an increase of 1274 km² of dense forest cover over that of ISFR 2017. The State-UT wise details of dense forest as per ISFR-2019, ISFR-2017 and ISFR-2015 is given in **Annexure**.
- (c) There is no such report available in the ministry.
- (d) Ministry is implementing various afforestation schemes including National Afforestation Programme, Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) and Green India Mission under which afforestation projects are carried out on degraded forest/non-forest land which includes arid land as well as area which are prone to drought.
- (e) AR (Artificial Regeneration) and ANR (Assisted Natural Regeneration) are taken up for enhancing the growing stock of the forest. Further, the Working Plan prescriptions covering various silvicultural operations are aimed at improving the health and vigour of the natural forest.

Annexure

Annexure referred to reply in part (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2022 due for answer on 12.02.2021 regarding 'Decrease in Area of Dense Forest'.

Dense Forest Cover in State/UTs as per ISFR 2015 to 2019

(Area in square kilometre)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Geographic al Area	Dense Forest (Very Dense Forest +Moderately Dense Forest) As per ISFR 2015	Dense Forest (Very Dense Forest +Moderately Dense Forest) As per ISFR 2017	Dense Forest (Very Dense Forest +Moderately Dense Forest) As per ISFR 2019
1.	Andhra Pradesh	160,204	14,773	16,008	15,932
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	83,743	51,987	51,676	51,652
3.	Assam	78,438	12,681	12,989	13,074
4.	Bihar	94,163	3,610	3,592	3,613
5.	Chhattisgarh	135,191	39,306	39,279	39,266
6.	Delhi	1,483	64.09	62.96	63.14
7.	Goa	3,702	1,116	1,114	1,114
8.	Gujarat	196,022	5,576	5,578	5,470
9.	Haryana	44,212	472	480	479
10.	Himachal Pradesh	55,673	9,612	9,815	10,239
11.	Jammu & Kashmir*	222,236	12,876	12,654	12,893
12.	Jharkhand	79,714	12,293	12,284	12,290
13.	Karnataka	191,791	21,960	24,946	25,549
14.	Kerala	38,863	10,857	11,070	11,443
15.	Madhya Pradesh	308,245	41,423	41,134	41,017
16.	Maharashtra	307,713	29,477	29,388	29,293
17.	Manipur	22,327	6,693	7,418	7,291
18.	Meghalaya	22,429	9,972	9,839	9,756
19.	Mizoram	21,081	5,935	5,992	5,958
20.	Nagaland	16,579	5,974	5,866	5,807
21.	Odisha	155,707	28,455	28,337	28,522
22.	Punjab	50,362	733	814	809
23.	Rajasthan	342,239	4,491	4,418	4,420
24.	Sikkim	7,096	2,656	2,656	2,654
25.	Tamil Nadu	130,058	13,477	14,651	14,635
26.	Telangana	114,865	11,805	10,334	10,395
27.	Tripura	10,486	4,779	5,902	5,890
28.	Uttar Pradesh	240,928	6,214	6,686	6,697
29.	Uttarakhand	53,483	18,466	17,853	17,852

30.	West Bengal	88,752	7,119	7,141	7,179
31.	A&N Islands	8,249	6,371	6,362	6,362
32.	Chandigarh	114	15.28	15.18	15.60
33.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	491	80	80	80
34.	Daman & Diu	112	7.22	7.22	7.09
35.	Lakshadweep	32	17.22	17.04	16.09
36.	Puducherry	480	28.78	17.60	17.66
	Grand Total	3,287,263	4,01,372	4,06,476	4,07,750