

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2834
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.03.2021

Diversion of Forest Land

2834. SHRI SAPTAGIRI SANKAR ULAKA:

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

- (a) the extent of forest land diverted for non-forestry activities since 2008 in various States under the Forest Conservation Act 1980, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the present status of compliance of provisions of Forest Rights Act (FRA) especially Community Forest Resource Rights in case of such forest land diversions;
- (c) whether compensation for curtailing/abolishing forest rights of forest dwellers recognized under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 has been provided; and
- (d) if so, the details of compensation provided to the affected persons, State/UT-wise?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has launched an online portal namely 'PARIVESH' for submission and processing of online proposals for approval of use of forest land for non-forestry purposes under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. As per the information available in the portal a total of **11653** projects involving **2,57,950.41** hectares of forest land have been approved for non-forest use under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 during April 2008 to March 2020. The State/UT-wise details are given in annexure.
- (b) to (d) Compliance under Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (FRA) is ensured prior to any approval for use of forest area for non-forestry purpose under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is accorded.

Land acquisition is undertaken by the Central and State Governments under various Central and State Acts, including the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (RFCTLARR Act, 2013) and the provisions of the RFCTLARR Act, 2013 are implemented by appropriate Government as defined under Section 3 (e) of the said Act. As such information on State/UT wise land acquired, rehabilitation and resettlement are not maintained at Central Government level.

Moreover, Section-5 of FRA, inter-alia, empowered Gram Sabha to ensure that;

- i. the decisions taken in Gram Sabha to regulate access to community forest resources and stop any activity which adversely affects the wild animals, forest and the biodiversity are complied with, and
- ii. the habitat of forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers is preserved from any form of destructive practices affecting their cultural and natural heritage;

Annexure

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2834 BY SHRI SAPTAGIRI SANKAR ULAKA REGARDING **DIVERSION OF FOREST LAND** DUE ON 12.03.2021

Area approved under Forest (Conservation) Act, during the period **01.04.2008 to 31.03.2020**

S. No.	Name of the State / UT	Area (in Ha.)
1	Andaman and Nicobar	46.68
2	Andhra Pradesh	9948.42
3	Arunachal Pradesh	10145.26
4	Assam	1228.75
5	Bihar	5076.41
6	Chandigarh	42.08
7	Chhattisgarh	13916.22
8	Dadar& Nagar Haveli	33.00
9	Daman and Diu	3.95
10	Delhi	18.75
11	Goa	1342.15
12	Gujarat	10982.01
13	Haryana	4767.58
14	Himachal Pradesh	5352.04
15	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00
16	Jharkhand	14590.22
17	Karnataka	4534.35
18	Kerala	124.98
19	Lakshadweep	0.00
20	Madhya Pradesh	29641.50
21	Maharashtra	11781.74
22	Manipur	2174.60
23	Meghalaya	387.63
24	Mizoram	523.48
25	Nagaland	0.00
26	Orissa	24483.54
27	Pondicherry	0.00
28	Punjab	59824.89
29	Rajasthan	11277.84
30	Sikkim	1324.71
31	Tamil Nadu	860.95
32	Telangana	19949.23
33	Tripura	1011.58
34	Uttar Pradesh	3004.05
35	Uttarakhand	8844.96
36	West Bengal	706.86
Total		257950.41