

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 990
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.12.2024

Conservation of Forests and Trees

990. SHRI MANISH JAISWAL:
SHRI ANUP SANJAY DHOTRE:
SHRI MAHESH KASHYAP:
SMT. GENIBEN NAGAJI THAKOR:

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

- (a) the details of all the wetlands and mangroves in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details of the steps taken by the Government to increase the forest and tree cover along with conservation of mangroves and wetlands in Bastar Division of Chhattisgarh State;
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government for the conservation of forests and plants on the verge of extinction;
- (d) whether the Government is carrying out plantation drive in the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of the funds allocated to Gujarat for the said plantation drive during the last three years?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

- (a) The Space Application Centre (SAC), Ahmedabad, under Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), in collaboration with the Ministry, published the National Wetland Decadal Change Atlas in 2021. The State-wise list of wetlands as reported in the Atlas, is given in **Annexure-I**.

Forest Survey of India (FSI), Dehradun, an organization under the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC), carries out the assessment of forest and tree cover of the country biennially and the findings are published in the India State of Forest Report (ISFR). As per the ISFR 2021, the State-wise details of mangrove cover of the country is given in **Annexure II**.

- (b) To increase the forest and tree cover, the Central Government provides financial support to the States and Union Territories (UTs) under various schemes and programmes such as National Mission for a Green India (GIM), Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats (IDWH), Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority

(CAMPA), Nagar Van Yojana, Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes (MISHTI), etc. As reported by the office of Principal Chief Conservator of Forest and Head of Forest Force, Chhattisgarh, as part of the ongoing forest conservation activities, restoration of degraded forests is going on in Bastar Division in a total area of 25561.288 ha and groundwater conservation work of 6953.488 ha in Financial Year 2024-25. Further, a total of 2895221 saplings have been planted in 1431.517 ha in the rainy season of 2024.

Further, the Government has notified Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017 under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 as regulatory framework for conservation and management of wetlands across the country to conserve, manage and maintain the ecological character of the wetlands. According to National Wetland Decadal Change Atlas data, there are 11,261 wetlands with an area of more than 2.25 hectares in Chhattisgarh. The wetlands located in Bastar division are as follows:

S.N.	Name of District	No. of Wetlands
1	Bastar	126
2	Bijapur	306
3	Sukama	161
4	Dantewada	51
5	Narayanpur	18

The Chhattisgarh State Wetlands Authority has completed ground-truthing of 2882 wetlands under the Ministry's Save Wetlands Campaign. Further, ground truthing and preparation of health cards of wetlands, installation of dust bins for cleanliness, and sign boards for spreading awareness around these wetlands are ongoing.

- (c) The Government of India has taken several steps which includes implementation of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002, as amended, for the conservation of forests and plants on the verge of extinction in the country. Under the Act, this Ministry, in consultation with the State Governments concerned, has also notified threatened species in 18 States and 2 Union Territories. This notification confers power to the State Biodiversity Boards and Union Territories Biodiversity Councils to regulate access to the notified species and to take measures to preserve those species.
- (d) The Central Government has undertaken multiple initiatives to carry out plantation activities. A campaign namely 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' has been launched to enlist community participation for plantation of trees. All the States and Union Territories have been encouraged to take up plantation activities under this campaign. The Government of India also provides financial support to the States and Union Territories (UTs) under various schemes and programmes for conducting plantation drives. Nagar Van Yojana (NVY) envisages developing 600 Nagar Vans and 400 Nagar Vatikas in the country during the period of 2020-21 to 2026-27. Under GIM, a sum of Rs. 944.48 crores have been released to seventeen States and one union territory for creation of plantation/eco-restoration over an area of 155130 ha. MISHTI program aims to cover approximately 540 sq km across nine coastal states and four Union Territories through mangrove reforestation and afforestation efforts. So far, Rs. 17.96 crore has been released under MISHTI in FY 2023-24 for restoration of 3046 ha of mangroves.

(e) As reported by the office of Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, Gujarat, the fund allocation for the plantation activities in the State of Gujarat for the last three years is as follows:

Year	Fund allocation for plantation and allied activities (Rs. In Crores)
2021-22	421.41
2022-23	420.90
2023-24	455.38

Annexure -I

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 990 due for answer on 02.12.2024 regarding 'Conservation of Forests and Trees'

State-wise details of Wetlands as per National Decadal Change Atlas, 2021

Sr. No.	State Name	Number	Area (ha)
1	Andhra Pradesh	24,104	1,141,606
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1,182	151,104
3	Assam	5,902	849,078
4	Bihar	4,526	374,766
5	Chhattisgarh	11,457	342,443
6	Goa	742	24,749
7	Gujarat	17,613	3,499,429
8	Haryana	1,905	33,649
9	Himachal Pradesh	215	94,011
10	Jharkhand	2,635	187,045
11	Karnataka	14,936	787,127
12	Kerala	1,399	158,336
13	Madhya Pradesh	13,947	861,736
14	Maharashtra	25,935	1,152,625
15	Manipur	132	67,408
16	Meghalaya	225	31,002
17	Mizoram	127	19,476
18	Nagaland	148	21,118
19	Odisha	13,331	719,942
20	Punjab	1,190	47,024
21	Rajasthan	13,321	778,824
22	Sikkim	259	7,049
23	Tamil Nadu	26,883	925,712
24	Telangana	12,338	566,680
25	Tripura	416	1,843
26	Uttar Pradesh	18,555	1,104,562
27	Uttarakhand	172	112,882
28	West Bengal	12,955	1,130,127
29	Andaman & Nicobar	2,774	143,238
30	Chandigarh	11	336
31	Dadra Nagar Haveli	12	2,063
32	Daman and Diu	59	2,728
33	Delhi	123	2,773
34	Jammu & Kashmir	404	164,110
35	Lakshadweep	50	79,716
36	Ladakh	1,073	373,049
37	Puducherry	139	5,555
Total		231,195	15,981,516

Annexure II

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 990 due for answer on 02.12.2024 regarding 'Conservation of Forests and Trees'

State-wise details of Mangrove cover (as per State of Forest Report 2021)

States/ UTs	Mangrove cover as per State of Forest Report 2021 (Sq. Km)
Andhra Pradesh	405
Goa	27
Gujarat	1175
Karnataka	13
Kerala	9
Maharashtra	324
Odisha	259
Tamil Nadu	45
West Bengal	2114
A & N Islands	616
Daman & Diu	3
Puducherry	2
Total	4992
