

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 981
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

India State of Forest Report, 2023

981. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY:

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

- (a) whether India State of Forest Report, 2023 released in December, 2024, indicates increase in country's forest and tree cover by 1445 sq. kms. since 2021 to 8.27 lakh sq. kms.;
- (b) if so, the details of increase, State-wise, including districts of Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) whether it is true that there is reduction in the forest cover in the Western and the Eastern Ghats of the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

- (a)to(d) The India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2023 released on 21st December, 2024 by the Forest Survey of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India indicates that there is a net increase of 1445.81 square kilometer in forest and tree cover of the country as compared to ISFR 2021. The total forest and tree cover of the country is 8,27,356.95 square kilometer which is 25.17% of the geographical area of the country. The details of increase in Forest and Tree Cover in the respective States/UTs are given in **Annexure-I**. Details of districts in Andhra Pradesh in which increase in forest cover has been reported is given in **Annexure-II**.

As per ISFR 2023, the forest cover of the country is 7,15,342.61 square kilometer which also includes the Eco-Sensitive Areas of Western Ghats. Further, there has been a net increase of 16,630.25 square kilometer in forest cover during last 10 years in the country between ISFR 2013 and ISFR 2023, which include increase of 3,465.12 square kilometer in the category of very dense forest in the eco-sensitive area of Western Ghats.

Annexure I

Annexure referred to in reply to part (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 981 due for answer on 10.02.2025 regarding 'India State of Forest Report, 2023'

**States/UTs showing increase in Forest and Tree Cover
between ISFR 2021 and ISFR 2023**

(Area in Square kilometer)

States /UTs	Total Forest Cover including Tree Cover 2021	Total Forest Cover including Tree Cover 2023	Increase in Forest Cover and Tree Cover
Chhattisgarh	61,666.83	62,350.45	683.62
Delhi	366.42	371.31	4.89
Gujarat	21,484.85	21,648.93	164.08
Haryana	3,180.07	3,307.28	127.21
Himachal Pradesh	16,338.97	16,435.42	96.45
Jharkhand	27,116.37	27,403.33	286.96
Kerala	24,951.54	24,965.30	13.76
Maharashtra	65,326.67	65,383.41	56.74
Mizoram	18,379.84	18,558.26	178.42
Odisha	58,038.44	58,597.01	558.57
Punjab	3,144.47	3,321.24	176.77
Rajasthan	26,994.87	27,389.33	394.46
Sikkim	3,403.85	3,406.73	2.88
Uttar Pradesh	23,437.53	23,996.72	559.19
Uttarakhand	25,528.40	25,534.97	6.57
West Bengal	19,744.72	19,770.45	25.73
Chandigarh	40.52	46.18	5.66
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	260.81	262.45	1.64
Jammu & Kashmir	24,922.11	25,013.36	91.25
Lakshadweep	27.11	27.26	0.15
Puducherry	71.85	73.20	1.35

Annexure-II

Annexure referred to in reply to part (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 981 due for answer on 10.02.2025 regarding 'India State of Forest Report, 2023'

Details of Districts in Andhra Pradesh showing increase in Forest Cover as per ISFR 2023

(Area in Square kilometer)

Name of District	Increase in Forest Cover between ISFR 2023 and ISFR 2021
Bapatla	2.10
Guntur	0.25
Kakinada	4.12
Konaseema	10.68
Krishna	9.34
Sri Potti Sriramulu Nellore	17.77
Sri Sathya Sai	0.78
Srikakulam	6.04
Vizianagaram	35.35
West Godavari	9.16