

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 126
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.07.2025

Achievement of Forest Cover

126. SHRI VARUN CHAUDHRY:

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

- (a) the details of the forest cover in the country along with the quantum of increase in the forest cover as per the target set during the last ten years, State and area-wise;
- (b) the details of the funds allocated and utilised under the said initiative; and
- (c) the action taken/being taken by the Government to increase the forest cover in the country along with the allocation and achievements during the last five years, State-wise particularly Haryana?

ANSWER

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

- (a)&(b) Forest Survey of India (FSI), Dehradun, an organization under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, 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). The forest cover assessment is a wall-to-wall mapping exercise based on remote sensing supported by intensive ground verification and field data from the National Forest Inventory.

As per ISFR 2023, the forest cover of the country is 7,15,342.61 square kilometer which is 21.76% of the total geographical area of the country. In the last ten years, the forest cover of the country has increased from 6,98,712.36 square kilometer to 7,15,342.61 square kilometer. Thus there has been an increase of 16,630.25 square kilometer in the forest cover of the country between ISFR 2013 and ISFR 2023. The State/UT wise details of the forest cover during last ten years is given in Annexure-I.

The National Forest Policy (NFP) 1988 envisages the national goal to have a minimum of one-third of the total land area under forest or tree cover and two-thirds of the area under such cover in the hill and mountainous regions of the country.

- (c) In consonance with NFP, 1988, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has been taking several initiatives for promoting forestry in the country. The afforestation and tree plantation activities are undertaken by States and Union Territories Governments under various State schemes.

This Ministry provides technical and financial support to the States/UTs for protection, conservation and management of forests in the country. For afforestation, the Ministry provides funds under various schemes and programmes such as National Mission for a Green India (GIM), Forest Fire Prevention and Management Scheme (FPM), Nagar Van Yojana (NVY) and Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Incomes (MISHTI). Afforestation is also carried out by the States/UTs under the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA).

These funds support the efforts of States and Union Territories to enhance forest and tree cover through ecological restoration measures such as afforestation within and outside forest areas, forest landscape restoration, habitat improvement, soil and water conservation, protection activities, and other related interventions.

Over the last five years, an amount of ₹619 crore has been released under the Green India Mission (GIM) to 18 States, which includes ₹7.88 crore released to the State of Haryana.

Further, ₹164.92 Crore has been released under FPM to all States which includes ₹0.17 Crore to the State of Haryana during last five years. An amount of ₹439.24 Crore has been released under Nagar Van Yojana to all States which includes ₹4.49 Crore to the State of Haryana during last five years.

In addition, ₹40,404.46 Crore of Annual Plan of Operations of States/UTs has been approved by the National Authority CAMPA which include ₹982.08 Crore to the State of Haryana during last five years.

It is a result of the comprehensive action taken regarding protection and conservation of forests as well as afforestation efforts that India's forest cover has increased by 3,093.61 square kilometer between ISFR 2019 & ISFR 2023. The States/UTs showing change in the forest cover during year 2019 and 2023 are given in Annexure-II.

Annexure-I

Annexure referred to in reply (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 126 due for answer on 21.07.2025 regarding Achievement of Forest Cover asked by Shri Varun Chaudhry

**State/UT wise details of decadal change in Forest Cover
between 2013 and 2023 as per ISFR 2023**

(In square kilometer)

Sl.No.	State/UT	Forest Cover (2013)	Forest Cover (2023)	Decadal Change in Forest Cover between 2013 & 2023
1	Andhra Pradesh	26043.53	30,084.96	4041.43
2	Arunachal Pradesh	66966.09	65,881.57	-1084.52
3	Assam	27564.90	28,313.55	748.65
4	Bihar	7283.55	7,532.45	248.90
5	Chhattisgarh	55606.96	55,811.75	204.79
6	Delhi	180.32	195.28	14.96
7	Goa	2219.00	2,265.72	46.72
8	Gujarat	14507.77	15,016.64	508.87
9	Haryana	1583.38	1,614.26	30.88
10	Himachal Pradesh	14683.00	15,580.35	897.35
11	Jharkhand	23815.38	23,765.78	-49.60
12	Karnataka	36170.68	39,254.27	3083.59
13	Kerala	18383.95	22,059.36	3675.41
14	Madhya Pradesh	77522.00	77,073.44	-448.56
15	Maharashtra	50632.00	50,858.53	226.53
16	Manipur	16961.16	16,585.46	-375.70
17	Meghalaya	17241.48	16,966.84	-274.64
18	Mizoram	18978.16	17,990.46	-987.70
19	Nagaland	13017.35	12,222.47	-794.88
20	Odisha	50544.71	52,433.56	1888.85
21	Punjab	1790.78	1,846.09	55.31
22	Rajasthan	16086.00	16,548.21	462.21
23	Sikkim	3358.00	3,358.40	0.40
24	Tamil Nadu	24245.21	26,450.22	2205.01
25	Telangana	19956.62	21,179.04	1222.42
26	Tripura	7948.65	7,584.77	-363.88
27	Uttar Pradesh	14359.72	15,045.80	686.08
28	Uttarakhand	24508.00	24,303.83	-204.17
29	West Bengal	17101.98	16,832.33	-269.65
30	A&N Islands	6711.00	6,732.92	21.92
31	Chandigarh	17.26	25.00	7.74
32	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	219.96	225.62	5.66
	Daman & Diu			
33	Jammu & Kashmir	20948.27	21,346.39	398.12
34	Ladakh	1478.00	2,285.92	807.92
35	Lakshadweep	27.02	27.06	0.04
36	Puducherry	50.52	44.31	-6.21
	Grand Total	698712.36	7,15,342.61	16,630.25

Annexure referred to in reply (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 126 due for answer on 21.07.2025 regarding Achievement of Forest Cover asked by Shri Varun Chaudhry

State/UT wise details of Forest Cover in ISFR 2019 and ISFR 2023

(In square kilometer)

Sl.No.	State/UT	Forest Cover (ISFR 2019)	Forest Cover (ISFR 2023)
1	Andhra Pradesh	29,137.00	30,084.96
2	Arunachal Pradesh	66,688.00	65,881.57
3	Assam	28,327.00	28,313.555
4	Bihar	7,306.00	7,532.45
5	Chhattisgarh	55,611.00	55,811.75
6	Delhi	195.44	195.28
7	Goa	2,237.00	2,265.72
8	Gujarat	14,857.00	15,016.64
9	Haryana	1,602.00	1,614.26
10	Himachal Pradesh	15,434.00	15,580.35
11	Jharkhand	23,611.00	23,765.78
12	Karnataka	38,575.00	39,254.27
13	Kerala	21,144.00	22,059.36
14	Madhya Pradesh	77,482.00	77,073.44
15	Maharashtra	50,778.00	50,858.53
16	Manipur	16,847.00	16,585.46
17	Meghalaya	17,119.00	16,966.84
18	Mizoram	18,006.00	17,990.46
19	Nagaland	12,486.00	12,222.47
20	Odisha	51,619.00	52,433.56
21	Punjab	1,849.00	1,846.09
22	Rajasthan	16,630.00	16,548.21
23	Sikkim	3,342.00	3,358.40
24	Tamil Nadu	26,364.00	26,450.22
25	Telangana	20,582.00	21,179.04
26	Tripura	7,726.00	7,584.77
27	Uttar Pradesh	14,806.00	15,045.80
28	Uttarakhand	24,303.00	24,303.83
29	West Bengal	16,902.00	16,832.33
30	A&N Islands	6,743.00	6,732.92
31	Chandigarh	22.03	25
32	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	207	225.62
	Daman & Diu	20.49	
33	Jammu & Kashmir	21,122.00	21,346.39
34	Ladakh	2,490.00	2,285.92
35	Lakshadweep	27.1	27.06
36	Puducherry	52.41	44.31
	Grand Total	7,12,249.00	7,15,342.61

