

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3770
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2026

Reduction in Green Cover

3770. SHRI DEVESH SHAKYA:
SHRI BABU SINGH KUSHWAHA:
SHRI NEERAJ MAURYA:

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

- (a) whether contrary to the objectives of the National Forest Policy, there has been an alarming reduction in green cover in the districts of Bareilly, Budaun, Shahjahanpur, Etah, Kasganj and Jaunpur due to industrial expansion, illegal felling and infrastructural projects and if so, the details of the reduction during the last five years and the current year, district-wise;
- (b) the number of saplings planted under the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) in lieu of trees felled for implementation of development projects during the said period in the said districts along with the present number of the surviving trees as per geo-tagging;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any scientific study on the impact of unseasonal rainfall and heatwaves arising from climate change on agricultural productivity in the said districts; and
- (d) whether any specific technical and budgetary allocation has been ensured for improving air quality by including the said districts in the list of non-attainment cities under the National Clean Air Programme?

ANSWER

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

- (a) 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 exercised based on remote sensing supported by intensive ground verification and field data from the National Forest Inventory. The details of forest cover of the aforesaid districts in the State of Uttar Pradesh are given at **Annexure**.
- (b) The Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF) Act, 2016 and its Rules, 2018 aim toward mitigating the loss of forest cover and associated ecosystem services resulting from the diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes. This is achieved through activities such as compensatory afforestation, restoration of degraded forests, enhancement of wildlife habitats, and biodiversity enrichment.

The Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) funds are used for undertaking various activities for the betterment of forest related to

improvement and enrichment of forests, wildlife and ecological services which include artificial regeneration, assisted natural regeneration, protection of forests, forest related

infrastructure development, Green India Programme, wildlife protection and other ancillary activities related to forest and wildlife management.

State/UT CAMPA Authorities submit Annual Plan of Operations (APOs) every year for approval to National CAMPA. The details of area covered under Compensatory Afforestation in the State of Uttar Pradesh are given below. District-wise figures are not maintained at the Ministry level and are maintained by the concerned State Authorities.

Sl. No.	State	2020-21		2021-22		2022-23		2023-24		2024-25	
		Target (in ha)	Achievement (in ha)								
1	Uttar Pradesh	1144.78	1136.58	1103.64	1091.43	1631.90	1604.68	1414.99	1288.60	2934.39	2839.78

The forest cover of Uttar Pradesh has increased by 118.43 square kilometer between ISFR 2021 and ISFR 2023.

- (c) The Ministry has not conducted any scientific study on the impact of unseasonal rainfall and heatwaves arising from climate change on agricultural productivity in the said districts.
- (d) National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) was launched by the Ministry in January 2019 to improve air quality in 130 cities in 24 States/ UTs of the country through implementation of National, State and City level clean air action plans.

City Specific Clean Air Action Plans have been prepared by all 130 cities to implement air quality improvement measures in respective cities. These plans target air pollution sources like soil & road dust, vehicular emissions, waste burning, Construction & Demolition activities, and industrial pollution.

Out of the Bareilly, Badaun, Shahjahanpur, Etah, Kasganj and Jaunpur Districts of State of Uttar Pradesh, Bareilly city has been identified as non-attainment city where PM10 levels have consecutively exceeded the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for a period of 5 years.

Bareilly city has been provided ₹130.17 crore under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) as an air quality performance-linked incentive to implement the City Action Plan for improving air quality. Due to coordinated efforts under NCAP, the city has shown significant improvement in air quality, with PM10 levels reducing from 207 µg/m³ in Financial Year 2017–18 to 48 µg/m³ in Financial Year 2024–25, reflecting an improvement of 76.8%.

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply of (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3770 due for answer on 16.03.2026 regarding 'Reduction in Green Cover' asked by Shri Devesh Shakya and others.

Forest Cover of Bareilly, Budaun, Shahjahanpur, Etah, Kasganj and Jaunpur districts of Uttar Pradesh from ISFR 2019 & ISFR 2023

(Forest Cover in Square kilometer)

Sl. No.	Districts	Forest Cover as per ISFR 2019	Forest Cover as per ISFR 2023
1	Bareilly	45.00	39.07
2	Budaun	32.04	27.90
3	Shahjahanpur	59.31	60.39
4	Etah	26.18	20.82
5	Kasganj/ Kanshiram Nagar	48.80	41.97
6	Jaunpur	67.02	64.00

