

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 339
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.12.2015

Encroachment of Forest Land

*339. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

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

- (a) whether encroachment of forest land has been reported in various States of the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the forest areas under encroachment, State and UT-wise;
- (c) the provisions laid down by the Government to pre-empt encroachment of forest land;
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to remove the encroachments; and
- (e) the status of implementation of the provisions by the States and the reaction of the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST
AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *339 BY SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA AND SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE REGARDING “ENCROACHMENT OF FOREST LAND” DUE FOR REPLY ON 22.12.2015

- (a) to (b) As per the information provided by the State/UT governments, the forest area under encroachment is 18,99,032.73 hectares which is approximately 2.47 % of the total recorded forest area of the country. The State/UT-wise details of the forest area under encroachments in the country are given in Annexure-I.
- (c) to (e) Protection and Management of Forests is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State/UT Government and hence the action to prevent and remove encroachments is taken as per the provisions of various acts such as Indian Forest Act, 1927; Wildlife Protection Act, 1972; Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and various rules & regulations thereof. Details regarding removal of encroachment by State Governments are not maintained in the Ministry.
- To prevent fresh encroachments various measures are taken by the State Forest Departments such as setting up of check posts, use of Information and Communication Technology, improved mobility to the field staff, survey and demarcation of forest areas and construction of boundary pillars. Local communities are also involved in conservation, protection and management of forests through Joint Forest Management Committees/ Village level committees. The Ministry supplements the efforts of the States/UTs in protection and management of forests through Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely Intensification of Forest Management Scheme.

Annexure-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PARTS (a) to (b) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *339 BY SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA AND SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE REGARDING “ENCROACHMENT OF FOREST LAND” DUE FOR REPLY ON 22.12.2015

S. No.	Name of States/UTs	Area of Encroachment (in ha.)
1	Andhra Pradesh	40561.96
2	Bihar	356.00
3	Chhattisgarh	118494.60
4	Gujarat	34791.00
5	Goa	Nil
6	Haryana	184.63
7	Himachal Pradesh	4600.00
8	Jharkhand	27360.21
9	Jammu & Kashmir	14 345.02
10	Karnataka	81 776.80
11	Kerala	41063.30
12	Madhya Pradesh	552570.46
13	Maharashtra	183171.80
14	Odisha	78505.08
15	Punjab	7078.496
16	Rajasthan	31659.53
17	Tamil Nadu	15142
18	Telangana	183465.00
19	Uttar Pradesh	26831.10
20	Uttarakhand	9656.73
21	West Bengal	12660.97
22	Arunachal Pradesh	58626.57
23	Assam	317215.39
24	Manipur	1918.37
25	Meghalaya	9378.00
26	Mizoram	29933.12
27	Nagaland	8721.86
28	Sikkim	3232.87
29	Tripura	6.77
30	A & N Islands	4379.36
31	Chandigarh	14.00
32	D&N Haveli	614.40
33	Daman & Diu	87.83
34	Lakshadweep	Nil
35	Delhi	629.51
36	Puducherry	Nil
	TOTAL	1899032.73