

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1799
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.03.2016

Percentage of Forest Land

1799. SHRI MD. BADARUDDOZA KHAN:

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

- (a) the percentage of land in the country under forests cover;
- (b) whether the percentage has changed during the last few years and if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year; and
- (c) whether any forest land has been acquired for any major project in public sector or private sector during the said period and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise?

ANSWER

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

- (a) As per India State of Forest Report-2015, the total forest cover in the country is 7,01,673 square kilometers which is 21.34% of the total geographical area of the country.
- (b) The Forest Survey of India has been carrying out assessment of forest cover on biennial basis since 1987 using remote sensing technology. India State of Forest Report-2015 is the latest in the series. The total forest cover and percentage thereof as per India State of Forest Reports 2011, 2013 and 2015 are given as under:-

S. No.	Year	Total Forest Cover (in Square Kilometer)	Percentage of the forest cover to the total Geographical area	Remarks
1	India State of Forest Report-2011	692,027/-	21.05	—
2	India State of Forest Report-2013	697,898/-	21.23	Increase of 5,871 square kilometer
3	India State of Forest Report-2015	701,673/-	21.34	Increase of 3775 square kilometer

- (c) Use of forest areas for such activities are approved by the Central Government under the Forest (conservation) Act, 1980 with adequate environmental safeguards and afforestation measures in lieu of forest land proposed to be utilized for developmental activities. The state wise and category wise details of the forest area diverted for non forestry purpose under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 during each of the last three years and current year are given in **Annexure**.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (c) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1799 due for answer on 08.03.2016 regarding 'Percentage of Forest Land'

Statement Showing Cases (State wise and Calendar Year wise) For Diversion Of Forest Land from Year 2013 to till date Under FC Act 1980

Category : <u>All Categories+363</u>											
Case Status : <u>IN-PRINCIPLE & APPROVED</u>											
During the Period : <u>01/01/2013 to 03/03/16</u>											
S. No.	STATE/UT	2013		2014		2015		2016		Grand Total	
		In-Principle+Approved		In-Principle+Approved		In-Principle+Approved		In-Principle+Approved		In-Principle+Approved	
		No. of Cases	Area Diverted	No. of Cases	Area Diverted	No. of Cases	Area Diverted	No. of Cases	Area Diverted	No. of Cases	Area Diverted
1	Andaman and Nicobar	11	26.76	3	3.96	0	0.00	0	0.00	14	30.72
2	Andhra Pradesh	8	891.64	18	3436.12	39	2974.41	3	15.33	68	7317.50
3	Arunachal Pradesh	20	2412.09	20	1457.88	12	4864.84	0	0.00	52	8734.81
4	Assam	2	80.88	1	235.00	1	29.86	0	0.00	4	345.74
5	Bihar	35	559.87	28	208.40	17	311.31	4	1.85	84	1081.44
6	Chandigarh	1	0.07	1	39.86	1	0.37	0	0.00	3	40.30
7	Chhattisgarh	9	1156.65	16	1992.75	18	2452.23	2	28.39	45	5630.03
8	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	3	5.38	3	1.45	0	0.00	0	0.00	6	6.83
9	Daman and Diu	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
10	Delhi	0	0.00	4	23.05	1	12.00	0	0.00	5	35.05
11	Goa	1	0.95	2	0.87	2	0.29	0	0.00	5	2.10
12	Gujarat	19	39.84	50	673.33	87	788.91	15	18.18	171	1520.26
13	Haryana	192	715.07	235	255.39	281	414.23	80	238.38	788	1623.07
14	Himachal Pradesh	17	452.85	7	434.52	24	1241.74	10	23.10	58	2152.21
15	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
16	Jharkhand	29	3034.85	14	2945.77	13	460.21	1	5.64	57	6446.47
17	Karnataka	3	69.70	8	380.22	25	421.42	13	375.38	49	1246.72
18	Kerala	1	4.33	3	5.24	0	0.00	1	9.53	5	19.10
19	Lakshadweep	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
20	Madhya Pradesh	31	1834.15	45	8458.75	58	5300.90	2	4.85	136	15598.65
21	Maharashtra	16	1920.67	36	2693.67	22	835.65	4	719.97	78	6169.96
22	Manipur	3	1325.82	6	1587.34	4	102.65	1	4.65	14	3020.46

23	Meghalaya	1	0.98	0	0.00	1	138.11	2	7.36	4	146.45
24	Mizoram	2	407.72	5	181.41	0	0.00	0	0.00	7	589.13
25	Nagaland	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
26	Orissa	19	4592.58	47	4171.71	34	2241.56	5	863.91	105	11869.77
27	Pondicherry	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
28	Punjab	177	288.82	153	474.50	228	144.95	39	28.68	597	936.95
29	Rajasthan	23	2897.93	13	1079.79	24	534.40	11	89.19	71	4601.31
30	Sikkim	4	147.85	5	3.42	8	38.88	1	0.00	18	190.16
31	Tamil Nadu	0	0.00	0	0.00	5	482.20	4	26.76	9	508.96
32	Telangana	0	0.00	0	0.00	15	3893.61	0	0.00	15	3893.61
33	Tripura	6	50.14	3	25.28	2	44.18	0	0.00	11	119.60
34	Uttar Pradesh	61	670.54	33	645.55	84	416.70	25	126.06	203	1858.85
35	Uttarakhand	22	1887.50	7	1745.53	243	192.26	25	115.30	297	3940.60
36	West Bengal	5	55.37	7	134.12	3	121.24	1	13.54	16	324.26
TOTAL		721	25531.00	773	33294.89	1251	26566.77	249	2198.16	2994	87590.82