

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1820
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.03.2016

Encroachment on Forest Land

1820. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA:

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

- (a) whether encroachment of forest land has been reported in various parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to check/remove the said encroachment?

ANSWER

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

- (a) to (b) As per the information provided by the State/UT governments, the forest area under encroachment is 18,994 Sq kms which is approximately 2.47 % of the total 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) Protection and Management of Forests is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State/UT Government and therefore the action to remove encroachment 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 by the states. The 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, barriers, use of modern technology (that includes wireless network, remote sensing, Geographical Information System, Information Technology, use of Global Positioning System (GPS) and Differential GPS), improved mobility to the field staff by providing vehicles for patrolling, 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 UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1820 BY SH. BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA: REGARDING “ENCROACHMENT ON FOREST LAND” DUE FOR REPLY ON 08.03.2016

S. No.	Name of States/UTs	Area of Encroachment (in ha.)	As on Date
1	Andhra Pradesh	40561.96	05.12.2014
2	Bihar	356.00	16.02.2013
3	Chhattisgarh	118494.60	07.03.2011
4	Gujarat	34791.00	19.03.2011
5	Goa	Nil	25.02.2013
6	Haryana	184.63	20.07.2011
7	Himachal Pradesh	4600.00	21.08.2012
8	Jharkhand	27360.21	31.07.2012
9	Jammu & Kashmir	14 345.02	13.02.2014
10	Karnataka	81 776.80	16.07.2014
11	Kerala	41063.30	27.02.2012
12	Madhya Pradesh	552570.46	03.09.2015
13	Maharashtra	183171.80	09.08.2011
14	Odisha	78505.08	22.07.2011
15	Punjab	7404.00	31.01.2011
16	Rajasthan	31659.53	31.03.2011
17	Tamil Nadu	15142	16.07.2014
18	Telangana	183465.00	18.07.2014
19	Uttar Pradesh	26831.10	15.02.2013
20	Uttarakhand	9656.73	11.02.2014
21	West Bengal	12660.97	31.03.2010
22	Arunachal Pradesh	58626.57	31.07.2014
23	Assam	317215.39	17.03.2015
24	Manipur	1918.37	10.04.2012
25	Meghalaya	9378.00	12.03.2011
26	Mizoram	29933.12	08.04.2011
27	Nagaland	8721.86	26.07.2011
28	Sikkim	3232.87	13.03.2012
29	Tripura	6.77	08.08.2014
30	A & N Islands	4379.36	02.01.2014
31	Chandigarh	14.00	11.03.2011
32	D&N Haveli	614.40	31.03.2013
33	Daman & Diu	87.83	28.09.2010
34	Lakshadweep	Nil	28.08.2010
35	Delhi	629.51	11.04.2012
36	Puducherry	Nil	21.10.2010
	TOTAL	18,99,358.24	

