

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2867  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.03.2016**

**Forest Cover Change Alert System**

2867. SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government has developed Indian Forest Cover Change Alert System (InFCCAS) and if so, the salient features thereof;
- (b) whether the InFCCAS has been effective in terms of improving the efficiency and effectiveness of existing forest monitoring capabilities and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of locations in the country where forest cover losses have been indicated as a result of InFCCAs during each of the last three years, State-wise; and
- (d) whether the InFCCAS provides real time alert/information about incidences such as forest encroachments, mining in forest areas and shifting cultivation and if so, the details of such incidents that have occurred in the country during the said period, State-wise?

**ANSWER**

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

(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

- (a) This Ministry has not developed any 'Indian Forest Cover Change Alert System' (InFCCAS). However, Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has undertaken the development of methodology for use of satellite data for forest cover change alert system. The Indian Forest Cover change alert system (INFOCCAS) aims at semi-automated identification of forest cover change locations, on an annual basis. A pilot study has been conducted by Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)/ National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) to identify each year the locations of Forest cover changes using the data over 2012-14.
- (b) The initial results are encouraging and efforts are to achieve high classification accuracies under the different forest conditions in India.
- (c) The provisional forest loss locations detected during 2013 and 2014 are 7155 and 3803 respectively. The provisional results State-wise are given in **Annexure**.
- (d) No. At present, the alerts describe locations on annual basis.

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**Annexure**

**Annexure referred to in reply to part (c) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question  
No. 2867 due for answer on 15.03.2016 regarding 'Forest Cover Change Alert  
System'.**

Provisional forest loss locations (State-wise)

State Name	Locations 2012 - 13	Locations 2013 - 14
ARUNACHAL PRADESH	329	800
ANDHRA PRADESH	267	81
ASSAM	784	66
BIHAR	11	12
CHHATTISGARH	591	136
GOA	60	37
GUJARAT	61	37
HIMACHAL PRADESH	80	13
HARYANA	34	15
JHARKHAND	67	55
JAMMU & KASHMIR	299	80
KARNATAKA	196	125
MAHARASHTRA	547	282
MEGHALAYA	241	31
MANIPUR	207	412
MADHYA PRADESH	618	367
MIZORAM	194	237
NAGALAND	368	230
ORISSA	139	157
PUNJAB	2	15
RAJASTHAN	37	37
TRIPURA	184	76
TELANGANA	1325	106
UTTARANCHAL	149	84
UTTAR PRADESH	17	6
WEST BENGAL	348	306
<b>Total Locations</b>	<b>7155</b>	<b>3803</b>