

1	2	3	4
<b>Ministry of Tourism</b>			
59.	India Tourism Dev. Corpn. Ltd.	494	38
<b>Ministry of Urban Development</b>			
60.	National Bldg. Constn. Corpn. Ltd.	261	55
<b>Ministry of Water Resources</b>			
61.	National Projects Construction Corpn. Ltd.	96	273
62.	WAPCOS Ltd.	4	4
TOTAL		5577304	17200

### Encroachment on Reserve Forests in Assam

\*239. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been large scale encroachment on the Reserve Forests in Assam which is a matter of serious concern;

(b) the present forest cover in the State in comparison to other North East States; and

(c) the action that Government is going to take so as to curb and put an end to encroachment on forest with immediate effect in the interest of the national security?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) As per the information received from the Government of Assam, 3172.15 sq. km. (approx) of forest area is under encroachment in the State.

(b) The details of forest cover in the State of Assam in comparison to other North East States are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) Protection and management of forests is primarily the responsibility of the concerned Government of State/Union Territory. The action to remove encroachment is taken by respective State/Union Territory Governments as per the provisions of various Acts, such as Indian Forest Act, 1927; Wildlife Protection Act, 1972; Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and the relevant State Acts and Regulations. The Ministry supplements the efforts of the States in protection and management of forests through Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely Intensification of Forest Management Scheme.

As per the report received from Government of Assam, action for eviction of encroachments is taken as per existing Rules and regulations. Further, under various

State Sector Schemes, a number of activities including regular patrolling of the forest areas by frontline staff and Assam Forest Protection Force, survey and demarcation, use of Geographical Information System for mapping etc. are taken up to prevent and detect encroachment in forest areas.

***Statement***

*The details of forest cover in the State of Assam in comparison to other North East States*

(Area in km<sup>2</sup>)

Sl.No.	Name of State	Forest cover as per the Indian State of Forest Report, 2013	Forest cover as percentage of total geographical area of the State
1.	Assam	27,671	35.28%
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	67,321	80.39%
3.	Manipur	16,990	76.10%
4.	Meghalaya	17,288	77.08%
5.	Mizoram	19,054	90.38%
6.	Nagaland	13,044	78.68%
7.	Sikkim	3,358	47.32%
8.	Tripura	7,866	75.01%

**Improvement in Chandrayaan II project**

\*240. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is improving the Chandrayaan II project with private participation on geological, health and space research components for the benefit of the country; and

(b) if so, the details of the programme and financial cost and benefits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) No, Sir. Chandrayaan-2 is totally an indigenous mission funded by the Government of India, envisaged to enhance our knowledge about the Moon. There is no private participation in this project. However, industry participation limited to supply of structure and few components/materials is sought as being done in other satellite technology missions.

(b) Does not arise.