

sprinkler. For the cities with population, less than 5 lakhs, funds of ₹10 lakhs per city has been allocated and for cities with a population of 5 to 10 lakhs, ₹20 lakhs per city has been allocated for capacity building and public awareness programs. Further, under NCAP, Committees at State level namely Steering Committee, Monitoring Committee and Implementation Committee have been constituted for effective implementation and monitoring of the city specific action plans to reduce air pollution.

Area under forest cover

57. DR. AMEE YAJNIK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the area under forest cover has declined in various parts of the country over the years;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the percentage of decline and reasons therefor, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether any statute exists to check deforestation and large scale felling of trees in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether comprehensive digital maps of notified forests area/land in the country is underway and if so, the details thereof and the progress made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) Forest Cover assessment for the country is carried out every two years by Forest Survey of India, an organization of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and the findings are published as India State of Forest Report (ISFR). Based on last three ISFR (ISFR 2015, ISFR 2017 and ISFR 2019), there is an overall increase of 10,754 square kilometre (km²) in the national forest and tree cover. Some decline in forest cover has been observed in only a few States/UTs in the ISFR-2019 as compared to ISFR-2017, including in Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Sikkim due to various reasons such as shifting cultivation, developmental activities such as mining, construction of dams, road and railway network, etc. Details of State/UT wise forest cover are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) The responsibility of forest protection including checking deforestation and large-scale felling lies primarily with the respective State/UT Governments. Accordingly, the State/ UT Governments take necessary action under the Indian Forest Act, 1927, Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and various State Acts and Rules.

(e) Management of notified forest area/land and maintenance of the records thereof including digital maps is the responsibility of the respective State/UT Governments. As per the information received from Forest Survey of India, Recorded Forest Area (RFA) boundaries in digital format have been prepared by 23 State/UT namely, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Tripura, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh and Dadra and Nagar Haveli.

Statement

State/UT-wise details of area under forest cover

States/UTs	Forest Cover (in square kilometre)		
	ISFR 2015	ISFR 2017	ISFR 2019
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	24424	28147	29137
Arunachal Pradesh	67248	66964	66688
Assam	27623	28105	28327
Bihar	7288	7299	7306
Chhattisgarh	55586	55547	55611
Delhi	188.77	192.41	195.44
Goa	2224	2229	2237
Gujarat	14660	14757	14857
Haryana	1584	1588	1602
Himachal Pradesh	14696	15100	15434
Jammu and Kashmir	22988	23241	23612

1	2	3	4
Jharkhand	23478	23553	23611
Karnataka	36421	37550	38575
Kerala	19239	20321	21144
Madhya Pradesh	77462	77414	77482
Maharashtra	50628	50682	50778
Manipur	16994	17346	16847
Meghalaya	17217	17146	17119
Mizoram	18748	18186	18006
Nagaland	12966	12489	12486
Odisha	50354	51345	51619
Punjab	1771	1837	1849
Rajasthan	16171	16572	16630
Sikkim	3357	3344	3342
Tamil Nadu	26345	26281	26364
Telangana	21591	20419	20582
Tripura	7811	7726	7726
Uttar Pradesh	14461	14679	14806
Uttarakhand	24240	24295	24303
West Bengal	16828	16847	16902
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	6751	6742	6743
Chandigarh	22.03	21.56	22.03
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	206	207	207
Daman and Diu	19.61	20.49	20.49
Lakshadweep	27.06	27.1	27.1
Puducherry	55.38	53.67	52.41
GRAND TOTAL	701673	708273	712249