

Sl. No.	State/UT	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
22.	Manipur	8.27	25.00	15.00	29.50	24.85
23.	Meghalaya	0.00	16.56	0.00	7.00	0.00
24.	Mizoram	6.80	10.00	7.73	6.85	8.30
25.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
26.	Odisha	180.00	322.00	426.00	509.00	554.00
27.	Puducherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
28.	Punjab	41.00	49.00	66.00	64.00	79.20
29.	Rajasthan	74.00	48.00	148.06	179.00	182.03
30.	Sikkim	13.70	11.00	9.00	0.00	0.00
31.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	3.52	9.00	12.68	7.00
32.	Telangana	35.00	76.00	117.00	127.00	237.38
33.	Tripura	8.00	11.00	12.00	7.10	16.70
34.	Uttar Pradesh	44.91	177.00	97.00	144.00	150.60
35.	Uttarakhand	68.00	164.00	170.71	96.00	303.00
36.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	21.00	0.00	21.22
TOTAL		1,575.72	2,122.72	2,634.24	2,404.90	3,523.59

#### Status of forest area

83. DR. FAUZIA KHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the area under forest cover across the nation, each year since 2014, State-wise;

(b) whether there are any instances of cutting of forests by way of encroachment, illegal cutting with wrong intention etc., if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the rate of cutting/clearing forests has increased during the last five years; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to check the cutting/ clearing of the forests and for afforestation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) The assessment of forest and tree cover of the country is carried out biennially by Forest Survey of India and the findings are published in India State of Forest Report (ISFR). The State/UT-wise forest cover as published in ISFRs 2015, 2017 and 2019 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) Instances of illegal cutting of trees and encroachment of forest area occur sporadically and are dealt with according to extant Acts and Rules by rules by respective State Forest Departments/UT Administrations.

(c) No, Sir. Trees are felled for various development purposes with the permission of competent authorities in accordance with the procedure laid down in various Acts and Rules. The Government Policy is to ensure that more trees are planted than removed under different developmental proposals approved under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Trees are removed only when it is absolutely necessary.

Government's efforts to plant more trees than removed have also been reflected in the biennial assessments of forest and tree cover. The forest and tree cover as reported in ISFR-2019 has increased by 13,209 square kilometre as compared to that of ISFR 2015 assessment.

(d) Protection and management of forests & tree resources are primarily the responsibility of State Government/Union Territory Administration. There are strong legal frameworks for protection and management of forest resources of the country which include the National Forest Policy, 1988, the Indian Forest Act, 1927, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, various State Forest Acts, Tree Preservation Acts and Rules, etc.

The State Government/Union Territory Administration takes appropriate actions to protect forests and regulate felling of trees in accordance with the provisions made under these Acts/Rules.

Afforestation programmes are being taken up under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as National Afforestation Programme and Green India Mission being implemented by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. Afforestation activities are also taken up under various programmes/funding sources such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana, Compensatory Afforestation Funds and under concerned State/UT schemes/plans.

**Statement***Total Forest Cover in States/UTs as per India State of Forest Report (ISFR)*

(Area in square kilometre)

States/UTs	Geographical Area	Total Forest Cover 2015 (updated)	Total Forest Cover 2017	Total Forest Cover 2019
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	1,62,968	26,006	28,147	29,137
Arunachal Pradesh	83,743	67,154	66,964	66,688
Assam	78,438	27,538	28,105	28,327
Bihar	94,163	7,254	7,299	7,306
Chhattisgarh	1,35,192	55,559	55,547	55,611
Delhi	1,483	188.77	192.41	195.44
Goa	3,702	2,210	2,229	2,237
Gujarat	1,96,244	14,710	14,757	14,857
Haryana	44,212	1,580	1,588	1,602
Himachal Pradesh	55,673	14,707	15,100	15,434
Jammu and Kashmir*	2,22,236	22,988	23,241	23,612
Jharkhand	79,716	23,524	23,553	23,611
Karnataka	1,91,791	36,449	37,550	38,575
Kerala	38,852	19,278	20,321	21,144
Madhya Pradesh	3,08,252	77,426	77,414	77,482
Maharashtra	3,07,713	50,699	50,682	50,778
Manipur	22,327	17,083	17,346	16,847
Meghalaya	22,429	17,262	17,146	17,119
Mizoram	21,081	18,717	18,186	18,006
Nagaland	16,579	12,939	12,489	12,486

1	2	3	4	5
Odisha	1,55,707	50,460	51,345	51,619
Punjab	50,362	1,771	1837	1,849
Rajasthan	3,42,239	16,106	16,572	16,630
Sikkim	7,096	3,353	3,344	3,342
Tamil Nadu	1,30,060	26,208	26,281	26,364
Telangana	112077	19,854	20,419	20,582
Tripura	10,486	7,890	7,726	7,726
Uttar Pradesh	2,40,928	14,401	14,679	14,806
Uttarakhand	53,483	24,272	24,295	24,303
West Bengal	88,752	16,826	16,847	16,902
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	8,249	6,751	6,742	6,743
Chandigarh	114	21.66	21.56	22.03
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	491	206	207	207
Daman and Diu	111	19.61	20.49	20.49
Lakshadweep	30	27.06	27.10	27.10
Puducherry	490	56.95	53.67	52.41
GRAND TOTAL	32,87,469	7,01,495	7,08,273	7,12,249

\*Includes Jammu and Kashmir area outside LoC that is under illegal occupation of Pakistan and China.

#### **Profits by PSUs**

84. SHRI K. J. ALPHONS: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) in the country;