

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 6**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.07.2021

**Forest fires in Odisha**

6. SMT. MAMATA MOHANTA:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the recent incidents of forest fires along with the estimated loss therefrom in the country, including Odisha, if so the details thereof;
- (b) the special arrangements formulated under Forest Fire Prevention and Management schemes;
- (c) the corrective measures taken by Government to combat forest fires in the country; and
- (d) the funds earmarked/allocated/utilized in this regard during the last three years specially to Odisha?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**  
**(SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV)**

- (a) to (d) The statement is laid on the table of the House.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 6 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 19.07.2021 REGARDING FOREST FIRES IN ODISHA ASKED BY SMT. MAMATA MOHANTA**

- (a) Forest fire do occur every year during summer due to various natural and anthropogenic reasons including accumulations of inflammable materials such as dry leaves, twigs, pine needles etc. Most of the forest fires in the country are ground fires in which ground vegetation, etc. get burnt. The number of incidences of forest fire in the country varies from year to year depending on various natural and anthropogenic reasons.

For effective monitoring of forest fire at the national level, in 2017 the Forest Survey of India (FSI), an organization under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, has developed a completely automated satellite based 'forest fire monitoring and alert system' with the addition of SNPP-VIIRS sensor based information. The fire alerts are disseminated through SMS and email to the registered users which include field staff of State Forest Departments. As of now, there are around 1.30 lakhs such registered users in the country.

Since land is state matter and forests are managed by the States/UTs, the responsibility of forest fire prevention and management lies primarily with the respective State/UT. The Ministry supports the efforts of the States/ UTs in prevention and control of forest fire by providing financial assistance for various forest fire prevention and management measures such as modern rules for fire extinguishing, use of communication and information technology, etc. under the Centrally Sponsored Forest Fire Prevention and Management Scheme.

Government of India does not assess or monitor the loss due to forest fire incidents. However, the details of the loss due to forest fire, as estimated by and received from the states/UTs are given at **Annexure I**.

- (b) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change supports the efforts of States/Union territories in prevention and control of forest fire by providing financial assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Forest Fire Prevention and Management Scheme. Under this scheme, assistance is provided for various measures such as creation and maintenance of fire lines in forest areas, engagement of fire watchers, creation of water storage structures in forest areas, strengthening of forest infrastructure, procurement of firefighting equipment, soil and moisture conservation works in high risk areas, awareness creation, incentivizing villages/communities for protection against forest fire etc.
- (c) The FSI has taken following steps to improve the forest fire alert system.
- (i) In the last fire season (November, 2020 to June, 2021), 3,45,989 such alerts were sent by FSI. The State/UT-wise number of forest fire alerts sent by FSI during last five fire seasons is given at **Annexure-II**.
  - (ii) FSI has pursued with States/UTs to increase the number of registered users of its alert system. Now, the number of such registered users has increased to around 1.30 lakh.
  - (iii) FSI also generates and disseminates "Weekly Early-Warning Alerts" of forest fire to concerned States/UTs.

- (iv) FSI has also initiated an innovative “Large Forest Fire Monitoring” programme in January 2019 which aims at improving tactical as well as strategic response to large forest fires by the respective States/UTs.

In addition to above initiatives by FSI, the Government has constituted a national level committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary of the Ministry that oversees the issues arising out of forest fire. The committee has advised all states to take several measures including constituting State-level Monitoring Committee on Forest Fire, preparing State Action Plan on Forest Fire, and Fire Risk Zonation mapping.

- (d) The details of funds released under the Forest Fire Prevention and Management Scheme to the states/UTs including Odisha during the last three years are given at **Annexure-III**.

## ANNEXURE REFERRED TO PART (a) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 6 DUE FOR REPLY ON 19.07.2021 REGARDING FOREST FIRE IN ODISHA ASKED BY SMT. MAMATA MOHANTA

## DETAILS OF ESTIMATED LOSS DUE TO FOREST FIRE

(Rs. In lakhs)

S. No.	States	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
		Estimated Loss	Estimated Loss	Estimated Loss	Estimated Loss	Estimated Loss	Estimated Loss
1	Andaman & Nicobar Island	0.09	0.00	1.90	0.02	2.37	
2	Andhra Pradesh						0.00
3	Arunachal Pradesh						0.00
4	Assam	14.44	3.52	0.18	1.67		
5	Chhattisgarh						0.00
6	Delhi						0.00
7	Goa						0.00
8	Gujarat	12.93	23.06	16.21	5.52	46.68	
9	Haryana	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.92	1.28	
10	Himachal Pradesh	350.67	196.41	325.00	122.10		
11	Kerala	2.49	0.42	1.45	1.45		
12	Madhya Pradesh			0.00	0.00	0.00	
13	Maharashtra	29.98	42.07	70.39	66.18	42.20	127.88
14	Meghalaya	Not Assessed	7.20	Not Assessed	Not Assessed		
15	Nagaland	24.05	0.10	0.00	0.00		
16	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
17	Odisha	Not Assessed					
18	Punjab	31.04	15.51	9.13	1.09		0.00
19	Rajasthan	16.98	9.21	57.67	12.07		
20	Sikkim						800.88
21	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
22	Telangana						0.00
23	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24	Uttar Pradesh	23.86	8.21	0.27	0.21		
25	Uttarakhand	46.50	21.25	86.05	55.72		41.58
26	West Bengal	72.00	76.20	29.59	5.32		

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO PART (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.6 DUE FOR REPLY ON 19.07.2021 REGARDING FOREST FIRE IN ODISHA ASKED BY SMT. MAMATA MOHANTA**

**Number of forest fire alerts by FSI using SNPP-VIIRS sensors (this includes large, continuous and repeated forest fires) during last 5 years**

State/UT	Jan 2017 to June 2017	Jan 2018 to June 2018	Nov 2018 to June 2019	Nov 2019 to June 2020	Nov 2020 to June 2021
ANDAMAN & NICOBAR Is.	72	23	37	39	16
ANDHRA PRADESH	12150	11028	15746	9996	19328
ARUNACHAL PRADESH	2701	1888	2617	1786	3914
ASSAM	7705	5563	5935	8924	10718
BIHAR	2448	2305	2450	614	5179
CHANDIGARH	0	2	0	2	0
CHHATTISGARH	41756	35344	25750	6360	38106
DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI	4	7	19	21	33
DAMAN & DIU	0	0	2	0	1
DELHI	22	22	20	21	14
GOA	162	122	140	47	45
GUJARAT	3933	5431	2885	2770	3803
HARYANA	570	141	135	68	152
HIMACHAL PRADESH	1748	6112	1446	536	4110
JAMMU & KASHMIR	927	5324	661	438	1098
JHARKHAND	13718	9913	6221	2613	21713
KARNATAKA	8118	5772	8078	4232	5784
KERALA	2352	908	1162	864	296
LAKSHADWEEP	0	0	0	0	0
MADHYA PRADESH	37193	37803	22108	9537	47795
MAHARASHTRA	25729	33790	26939	14018	34025
MANIPUR	4580	6222	7384	8800	10457
MEGHALAYA	6402	6469	5797	6762	7658
MIZORAM	6215	7422	7597	7361	12846
NAGALAND	2836	3165	2898	2905	4975
<b>ODISHA</b>	<b>33215</b>	<b>32399</b>	<b>19159</b>	<b>10602</b>	<b>51968</b>
PUDUCHERRY	9	11	4	0	1
PUNJAB	964	1494	214	153	635
RAJASTHAN	2048	2955	3025	3461	3402
SIKKIM	64	11	64	47	63
TAMIL NADU	1699	1405	4402	1368	1220
TELANGANA	12927	13721	15262	12132	18237
TRIPURA	2049	3231	3083	4369	5015
UTTAR PRADESH	5523	6347	4428	1548	8608
UTTARAKHAND	3623	11808	12965	759	21487
WEST BENGAL	2321	322	1653	1320	3287
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>245783</b>	<b>258480</b>	<b>210286</b>	<b>124473</b>	<b>345989</b>

**ANNEXURE-III**

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO PART (d) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 6 DUE FOR REPLY ON 19.07.2021 REGARDING FOREST FIRE IN ODISHA ASKED BY SMT. MAMATA MOHANTA

Details of tentative allocation and fund released to States/UTs under CSS: Forest Fire Prevention & Management Scheme for the year (2018-19 to 2020-21)

Rs. in Lakh)

S. No.	State/UT	2018-19		2019-20		2020-21	
		Tentative allocation	Amount Released	Tentative allocation	Amount Released	Tentative allocation	Amount Released
<b>Other States</b>							
1	Andhra Pradesh	175.00	260.06	192.04	216.13	267.34	0.00
2	Bihar	125.00	57.17	137.17	208.16	41.10	233.94
3	Chhattisgarh	280.00	104.60	307.26	392.07	300.76	0.00
4	Gujarat	125.00	92.16	137.17	183.92	248.41	185.60
5	Goa	125.00	87.83	137.17	0.00	3.95	0.00
6	Haryana	125.00	0.00	137.17	49.26	27.21	0.00
7	Himachal Pradesh	175.00	0.00	192.04	199.99	33.36	203.29
8	Jharkhand	175.00	107.84	192.04	222.02	247.71	153.46
9	Karnataka	175.00	174.70	192.04	136.75	240.40	219.40
10	Kerala	175.00	279.57	192.04	256.80	98.25	0.00
11	Madhya Pradesh	280.00	628.25	307.26	327.29	600.54	269.88
12	Maharashtra	280.00	787.28	307.26	428.07	578.47	455.18
13	Odisha	280.00	435.00	307.26	463.84	357.73	400.55
14	Punjab	125.00	0.00	137.17	13.56	17.37	0.00
15	Rajasthan	175.00	98.82	192.04	0.00	280.02	97.15
16	Tamil Nadu	175.00	0.00	192.04	154.82	206.79	0.00
17	Telangana	175.00	0.00	192.04	0.00	173.94	166.96
18	Uttar Pradesh	125.00	100.61	137.17	97.63	264.13	146.96
19	Uttarakhand	280.00	438.38	307.26	480.03	123.39	0.00
20	West Bengal	125.00	54.14	137.17	95.61	134.89	78.83
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3800.00</b>	<b>3706.41</b>	<b>4170.00</b>	<b>3925.95</b>	<b>4318.34</b>	<b>2611.20</b>
<b>NE &amp; Sikkim</b>							
1	Assam	170.00	93.23	102.00	0.00	118.08	0.00
2	Arunachal Pradesh	170.00	89.08	102.00	0.00	94.46	0.00
3	Manipur	110.00	230.54	66.00	55.34	71.01	316.61
4	Meghalaya	110.00	113.53	66.00	73.94	51.94	73.31
5	Mizoram	110.00	110.47	66.00	108.12	81.70	112.46
6	Nagaland	110.00	83.12	66.00	79.95	46.75	87.80
7	Sikkim	110.00	0.00	66.00	293.77	4.77	0.00
8	Tripura	110.00	109.73	66.00	103.43	31.28	45.62
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1000.00</b>	<b>829.70</b>	<b>600.00</b>	<b>714.55</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>635.80</b>
<b>Union Territories</b>							
1	A & N Islands	15.00	26.41	15.00	0.00	11.01	0.00
2	Chandigarh	15.00	1.00	15.00	0.00	0.02	0.00
3	D&N Haveli	3.33	0.00	3.33	0.00	0.31	0.00
4	Daman & Diu	3.34	0.00	3.34	0.00	0.03	0.00
5	Jammu & Kashmir	125.00	0.00	137.17	0.00	72.58	0.00
6	Lakshadweep	3.33	0.00	3.33	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	New Delhi	50.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	0.21	0.00
8	Pondicherry	50.00	49.84	50.00	0.00	0.08	0.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>140.00</b>	<b>77.25</b>	<b>140.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>11.66</b>	<b>0.00</b>
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>4940.00</b>	<b>4613.36</b>	<b>4910.00</b>	<b>4640.50</b>	<b>4830.00</b>	<b>3247.00</b>