

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 524
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 21.07.2022

Use of satellite to battle deforestation

524. SHRI S. SELVAGANABATHY:

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

- (a) whether Government is cognizant that satellites are a more effective tool to battle deforestation as they conveniently image vast areas of forests in a short time, and also that the Earth Scanner can capture an area of up to 40,000 sq. kms. in a single pass, making it ideal for monitoring extensive forest areas; and
- (b) if so, the initiatives that have been taken/being taken by Government for satellite imaging keeping in mind that satellite data and analysis will help in the fight against deforestation?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a) &(b) Yes, Sir. The Forest Survey of India, an organization under the Ministry publishes a biennial report on forests in India named India State of Forest Report (ISFR). The first report of 1987 used LANDSAT- MSS satellite data with a spatial resolution of 80 metre at 1:1 million scale and the latest report i.e. ISFR 2021 is based on ResourceSat-2 LISS III satellite image with a spatial resolution of 23.5 metre. The final output of this exercise i.e. Forest Cover Map of India and of different states at 1:50,000 scale, helps the Governments in making detailed plans to address the challenge of deforestation.
