

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2496
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2021

Diversion of Forest land

2496. SHRI T. R. BAALU:

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

- (a) the total extent of forest land diverted for non-forestry purposes during the last five years up to 2020-21, year-wise, State-wise;
- (b) the details of forest clearances involving 50 hectares and more for various purposes, accorded in the last five years;
- (c) the acreage of land in National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries diverted for non-forestry purposes, along with the details of location, projects, and project proponents; and
- (d) the details of projects which were opposed by the people of the project affected areas and the justification for according clearance despite public opposition?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a) & (b) As per the information available, a total of 82893.61 hectare of forest land has been approved for non-forest use under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 during April 2016 to March 2021. The State/UT-wise details are given in **Annexure-I**. The details of forest clearances accorded involving 50 hectare and more area for various purposes, in the said period are given in **Annexure-II**.
- (c) & (d) As per available record 206 proposals involving **4118.109067** ha area within Protected Areas including National Parks and Sanctuaries have been recommended by the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife (SCNBWL) during the years 2020 and 2021. However, the Central Government has launched an online portal namely PARIVESH (“Pro Active and Responsive facilitation by Interactive and Virtuous Environmental Single window Hub”) for the purpose of submitting and processing proposals for the Forest, Wildlife and other Environmental clearances. The portal has provisions to upload the details of projects including locations and project proponents. The information so uploaded is available in the public domain on the website www.parivesh.nic.in.

The Government of India accords prior approval to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for use of forest land for non-forest purposes under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and related Statutes, Rules and Guidelines.

Annexure-I

Annexure referred to part (a) of the LSUQ No. 2496 dated 13.12.2021 asked by Shri T.R. Baalu regarding Diversion of Forest land'							
Statement Showing State/UT wise area approved (in Ha.) for use of forest land for non-forestry purpose under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980							
S. No.	STATE / UT	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	Grand Total
		Area (in Ha.)	Area (in Ha.)	Area (in Ha.)	Area (in Ha.)	Area (in Ha.)	Area (in Ha.)
1	Andaman and Nicobar	5.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.26
2	Andhra Pradesh	16.29	1215.87	502.15	196.93	782.28	2713.53
3	Arunachal Pradesh	188.42	222.86	0.00	4577.84	95.37	5084.48
4	Assam	0.00	0.00	1.00	19.98	1157.35	1178.33
5	Bihar	165.68	571.67	330.86	427.11	481.81	1977.14
6	Chandigarh	0.02	0.00	0.36	0.00	0.05	0.43
7	Chhattisgarh	752.08	294.12	641.86	0.00	209.10	1897.15
8	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	1.50	4.18	5.43	11.70	1.15	23.97
9	Goa	0.00	42.49	1.19	0.00	97.65	141.33
10	Gujarat	310.03	154.24	1198.98	1785.91	1891.10	5340.27
11	Haryana	364.98	323.46	531.80	566.19	363.61	2150.03
12	Himachal Pradesh	31.81	294.44	669.14	414.22	323.14	1732.76
13	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.20	1.20
14	Jharkhand	303.82	351.73	1448.05	903.90	413.67	3421.16
15	Karnataka	199.20	326.52	139.64	390.12	299.78	1355.25
16	Kerala	4.16	0.17	2.88	0.80	1.20	9.21
17	Madhya Pradesh	896.63	4549.15	5743.85	2095.89	6352.90	19638.41
18	Maharashtra	1519.78	1367.56	431.39	183.79	113.10	3615.62
19	Manipur	96.00	1063.62	0.00	24.50	0.00	1184.12
20	Meghalaya	4.82	0.00	0.00	0.03	6.55	11.40
21	Mizoram	0.24	0.00	17.50	46.48	0.00	64.22
22	Orissa	296.56	2011.45	3635.74	4075.63	1842.86	11862.24
23	Punjab	46.08	651.86	629.67	283.83	361.06	1972.49
24	Rajasthan	2176.63	130.69	801.68	511.20	151.42	3771.62
25	Sikkim	12.28	0.61	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.90
26	Tamil Nadu	9.77	0.76	32.33	27.95	11.10	81.91
27	Telangana	2.49	4891.81	2309.08	377.94	628.00	8209.32
28	Tripura	11.12	3.33	8.48	294.38	348.04	665.36
29	Uttar Pradesh	123.83	6.96	138.81	39.68	1086.71	1395.99
30	Uttarakhand	171.57	1072.04	338.43	170.35	1156.89	2909.28
31	West Bengal	124.87	75.99	26.91	102.33	137.14	467.24
Grand Total		7835.92	19627.56	19587.21	17528.69	18314.23	82893.61

Annexure-II

Annexure referred to part (b) of the LSUQ no. 2496 dated 13.12.2021 asked by Shri T.R. Baalu regarding 'Diversion of Forest land'

Purpose wise details of proposals involving 50 ha and more area approved during 2016-17 to 2020-21

S. No.	Category	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	Grand Total
1	Defence	0.00	3612.33	4154.23	154.42	2588.56	10509.54
2	Drinking Water	0.00	0.00	0.00	117.87	409.53	527.40
3	Forest Village Conversion	0.00	809.00	285.70	0.00	198.00	1292.70
4	Hydel	0.00	0.00	98.10	4577.84	580.78	5256.72
5	Industry	0.00	0.00	149.20	0.00	0.00	149.20
6	Irrigation	3348.14	3921.99	5201.98	2688.76	1357.56	16518.42
7	Mining	1427.78	4033.55	5422.73	3174.18	2253.80	16312.03
8	Others	256.34	1421.13	287.05	996.72	957.08	3918.31
9	Railway	0.00	1777.04	120.15	465.90	917.47	3280.56
10	Rehabilitation	300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00
11	Road	819.11	1095.51	607.38	1442.28	2875.60	6839.88
12	Thermal	0.00	114.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	114.36
13	Transmission Line	196.01	533.04	459.92	915.59	1636.22	3740.78
14	Wind Power	60.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	60.70
Grand Total		6408.07	17317.94	16786.45	14533.55	13774.60	68820.61