

7.18
MEGHALAYA

Geographical Area	22,429 sq km
Population (as per Census 2011)	2.96 million
Urban	0.59 million (20.07%)
Rural	2.37 million (79.93%)
Tribal	2.56 million (86.15 %)
Average Population Density	132 per sq km
Livestock population (as per 18th Live Stock Census)	1.82 million
No. of Districts (as per Census 2001)	7
No. of Hill Districts	7
No. of Tribal Districts	7

Land Use Pattern

Land Use	Area in '000 ha	Percentage
Total Geographical Area	2,243	
Reporting area for land utilization	2,241	100
Forests	946	42.22
Not available for cultivation	239	10.68
Permanent pastures and other grazing lands	0	0
Land under Misc. Tree crops and groves	164	7.33
Culturable wasteland	391	17.43
Fallow lands other than current fallows	155	6.92
Current fallows	60	2.68
Net area sown	285	12.74

Source: Landuse Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture, GOI, 2012-13.

Forest Cover Within Green Wash

Very Dense Forest	416 sq km
Moderately Dense Forest	7,877 sq km
Open Forest	6,458 sq km
Sub Total	14,751 sq km

Forest Cover Outside Green Wash

Very Dense Forest	33 sq km
Moderately Dense Forest	1,707 sq km
Open Forest	726 sq km
Sub Total	2,466 sq km
Total Forest Cover	17,217 sq km
Tree Cover	710 sq km
Total Forest & Tree Cover	17,927 sq km
Per capita Forest & Tree Cover	0.606 ha
Of State's Geographical Area	79.93 %
Of India's Forest & Tree Cover	2.26 %

Forest Cover Informatics in Different Patch Size Class

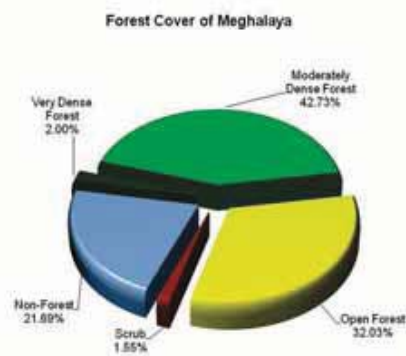
S.No.	Patch Size Range in (sq km)	No. of Patches	Area (sq km)	%age
1.	>=0.01 <= 1.0	6,979	370	2.15
2.	> 1.0 <= 10	85	229	1.33
3.	> 10 <= 100	4	79	0.46
4.	> 100 <= 500	0	0	0.0
5.	> 500 <= 1000	0	0	0.0
6.	> 1000 <= 5000	1	1,201	6.98
7.	> 5000 <= 10000	0	0	0.0
8.	>10000	1	15,338	89.08
	Total	7,070	17,217	100

Forest Types

(Area in km²)

Forest Type	Area	Percent
1B/C3 Cachar Tropical Evergreen Forest	1,611.79	9.39
1B/2S1 Pioneer <i>Euphorbiaceous</i> Scrub	181.54	1.06
2B/C1a Assam Alluvial Plains Semi-Evergreen Forest	148.21	0.86
2/2S1 Secondary Moist Bamboo Brakes	182.75	1.07
3C/C1a (ii) Khasi Hill Sal Forest	1,527.69	8.90
3C/C3b East Himalayan Moist Mixed Deciduous Forest	9,052.23	52.72
8B/C2 Khasi Subtropical Wet Hill Forest	3,041.18	17.71
9/C2 Assam Subtropical Pine Forest	1,423.61	8.29
Total	17,169.00	100.00

Source: Atlas Forest Types of India, 2011



Growing Stock

Growing Stock in Recorded Forest Area	39.72 million cum
Growing Stock in TOF	19.08 million cum

Recorded Forest Area

Reserved Forest	1,113 sq km
Protected Forest	12 sq km
Unclassed Forest	8,371 sq km
Total	9,496 sq km
Of State's Geographical Area	42.34 %
Of India's Forest Area	1.24 %

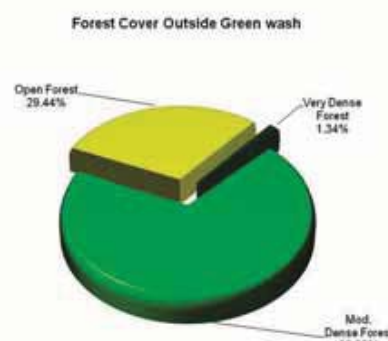
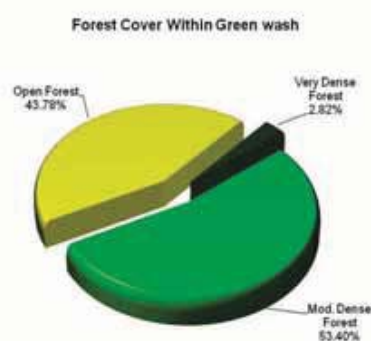


Table 7.18a: District-wise Forest Cover of Meghalaya

District-wise Forest Cover

(Area in km²)

District	Geo-graphical Area	Very Dense Forest	Mod. Dense Forest	Open Forest	Total	Percent of GA	Change	Scrub
East Garo Hills TH	2,603	61	1,068	1,095	2,224	85.44	-17	33
East Khasi Hills TH	2,820	0	1,061	722	1,783	63.23	-33	90
Jaintia TH	3,819	100	1,557	910	2,567	67.22	21	59
Ribhoi TH	2,376	162	1,129	801	2,092	88.05	-4	19
South Garo Hills TH	1,849	43	988	611	1,642	88.80	-6	19
West Garo Hills TH	3,715	0	1,277	1,652	2,929	78.84	-17	59
West Khasi Hills TH	5,247	83	2,504	1,393	3,980	75.85	-15	69
Grand Total	22,429	449	9,584	7,184	17,217	77.08	-71	348

Figure 7.18: Forest Cover Map of Meghalaya

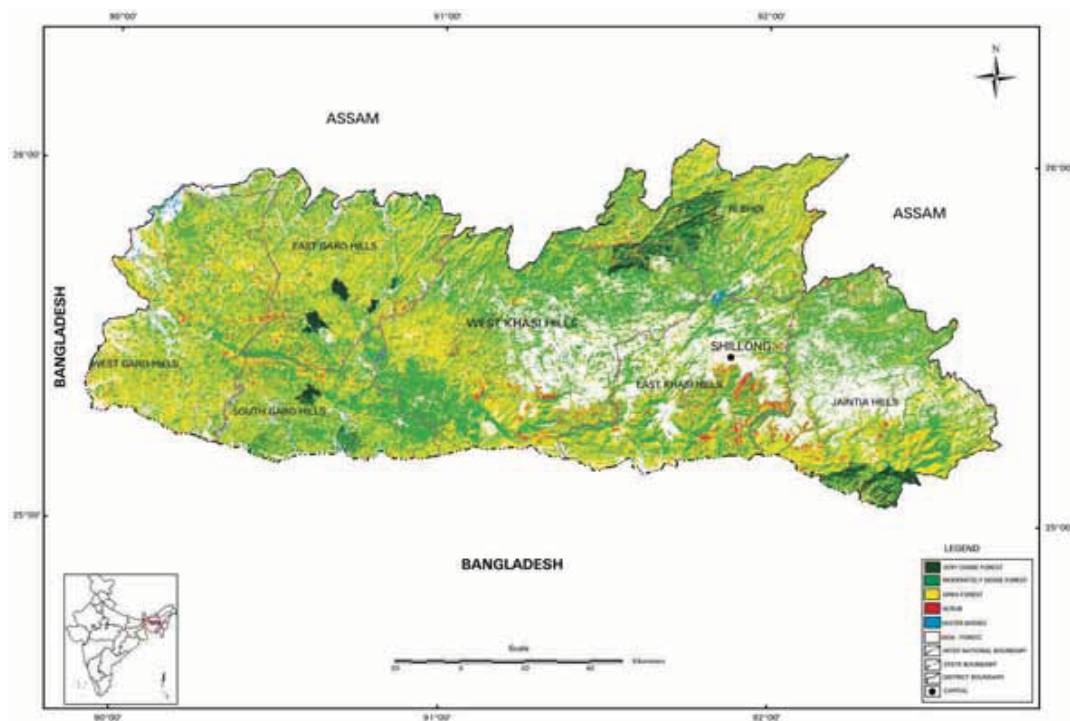


Table 7.18b Change Matrix of Meghalaya

Forest Cover Change Matrix (Area in km²)

Class	2015 Assessment					Total ISFR 2013
	VDF	MDF	OF	Scrub	NF	
Very Dense Forest	449	0	0	0	0	449
Moderately Dense Forest	0	9,457	47	0	185	9,689
Open Forest	0	42	6,814	26	268	7,150
Scrub	0	0	74	250	48	372
Non Forest	0	85	249	72	4,363	4,769
Total ISFR 2015	449	9,584	7,184	348	4,864	22,429
Net Change	0	-105	34	-24	95	

Table 7.18c : Altitude-wise Forest Cover of Meghalaya

Altitude-wise Forest Cover (Area in km²)

Altitude Zone	VDF	MDF	OF	Total
0-500m	249	4,196	4,123	8,568
500-1000m	192	2,785	2,206	5,183
1000-2000m	8	2,603	855	3,466
Total	449	9,584	7,184	17,217

(Based on SRTM, Digital Elevation Model)

Reasons for change detected in 2015 assessment:

Main reason for the decrease in forest cover is shifting cultivation and other biotic pressure etc.