

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT, 2005

**CHAPTER-XVII**

**Such other information as may be prescribed:**

**Forest Cover**

As per the State of the Forest Report 2011 of the Forest Survey of India about 81.51% of the 8249 sq. km. of geographical area of Andaman & Nicobar Island is under forest cover whose breakup (density-wise) is given in the table below.

**Table-1**

(in Sq .km)

District	Geograph-ical area	Forest cover 2003 assessment					Scrub
		*Very Dense Forest	*Moderately Dense	*Open Forest	Total	Percentage	
Andaman	6408	2937	1990	416	5343	83.38	4
Nicobar	1841	824	426	131	1381	75.01	53
<b>Total</b>	<b>8249</b>	<b>3761</b>	<b>2416</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>6724</b>	<b>81.51</b>	<b>57</b>

\*Very dense: forest cover with a canopy density over 70%

\*Moderately dense: canopy density between 40% and 70%

\*Open Forest: canopy density between 10 % and 40%

**Notified Forest**

The total notified forest is 7170.69 Sq. Km, which is 86.93% of the total geographical area of the Islands. District wise and category wise details of recorded forest are given in the following table

**Table-2**

(in Sq .km)

District	Reserved Forest	Protected Forest	Total Forest
Andaman	2928.76	2699.86	5628.62
Nicobar	-	1542.07	1542.07
<b>Total</b>	<b>2928.76</b>	<b>4241.93</b>	<b>7170.69</b>

It may be observed that the notified forest area is 5.42% more than the forest cover of 84.42% of the geographical area of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. This is mainly on account of the fact that notified area also covers grass lands particularly in Nicobar group of islands falling within forest area but not treated as forest cover.