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## India's eroding forest cover

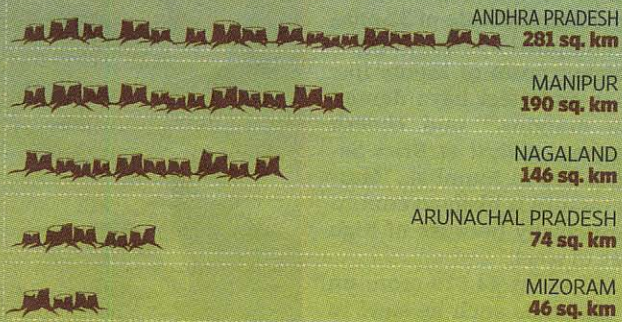
India lost 367 sq. km of forest area between 2009 and 2011, according to the biennial India State of Forest Report released on Tuesday. India's environment ministry has blamed Maoist rebels and shifting cultivation practised in the country's north-east for the drop in forest cover.

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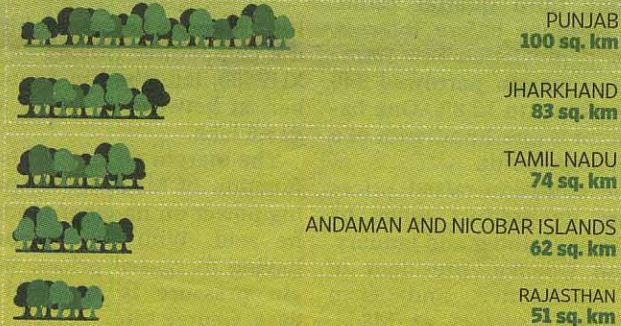
■ Forest cover as % of total geographical area  
■ Forest area (in mn hectares)



### States with biggest losses in forest cover



### States with biggest gains in forest cover



Figures are approximations and prone to revisions in subsequent reports

Source: India State of Forest reports

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