

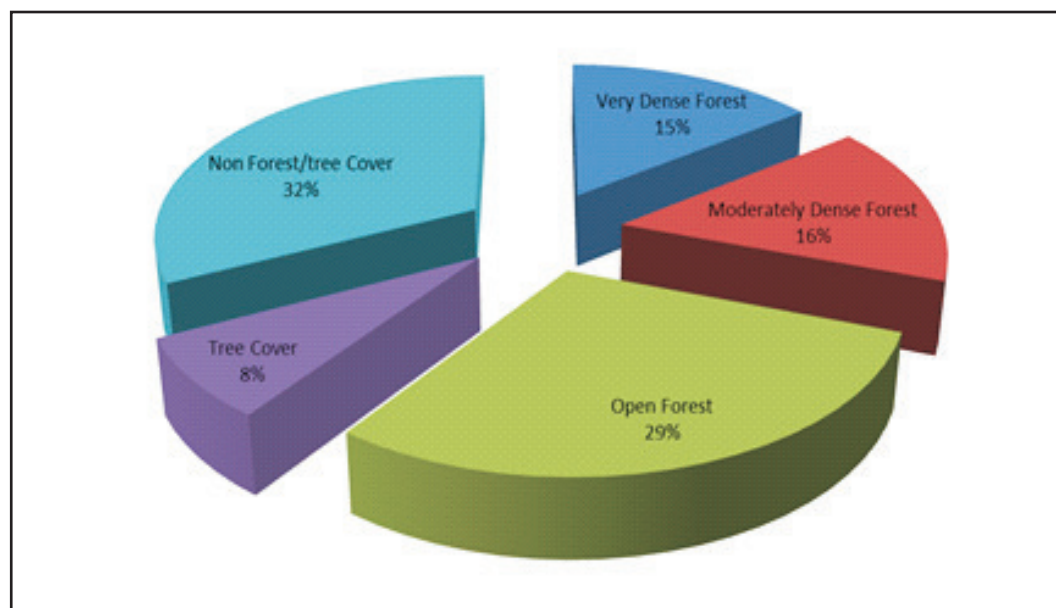
CHAPTER II FOREST AREA

2.1 FOREST AND TREE COVER

The Forest Survey of India (FSI) assesses the forest and tree cover of the country along with other resource parameters biennially using the remote sensing technology and is published in the State of Forest Report (SFR). As per the State of Forest Report published by the Forest Survey of India, the forest cover of the state is 2219 Km² which is 59.94 % of the State's geographical area. The estimated tree cover in the state is 286 Km² which is 7.73 % of the Geographical area. The district wise area in different density classes, the total forest and tree cover and the altitude Zone wise forest cover is given in the tables and charts below

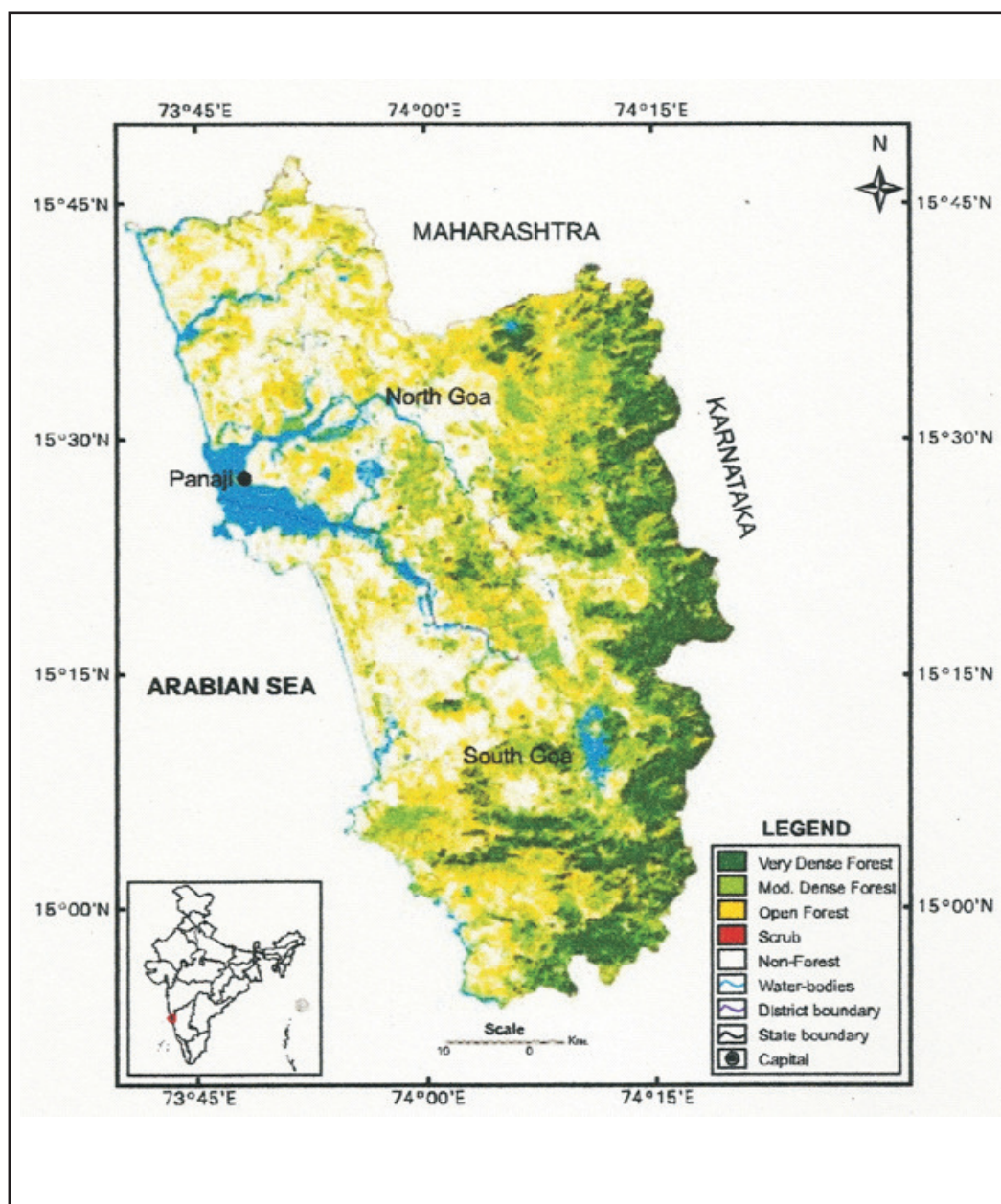
Forest and Tree cover(Area in Km²)

District	Geographical area	Very Dense Forest	Moderately Dense Forest	Open Forest	Total Area	%of Geo area
North Goa	1736	128	236	559	923	53.17
South Goa	1966	415	349	532	1296	65.92
Total	3702	543	585	1091	2219	59.94
		Tree Cover			286	7.73
		Total Forest and Tree Cover			2505	67.67



Forest cover classification

FOREST COVER MAP OF GOA



Altitude Zone - wise Forest cover(Area in Km²)

Altitude Zone	Very Dense Forest	Moderately Dense Forest	Open Forest	Total Area
0-500m	444	561	1058	2063
500-1000m	99	24	33	156
Total	543	585	1091	2219

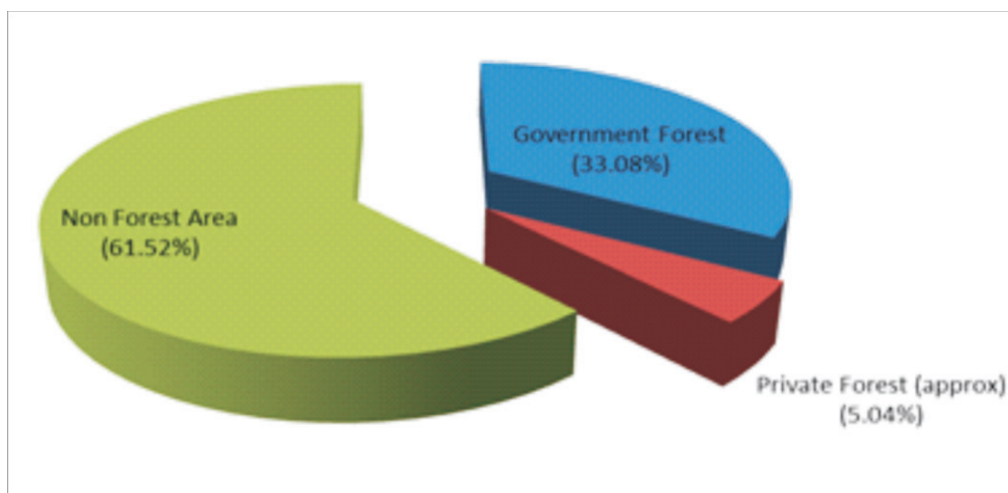
The total estimated growing stock in the state as per the SFR 2011 is 11.611 million cum and the estimated bamboo bearing area of the state is 308 Km².

2.2 FOREST COVER ASSESSMENTS IN THE PREVIOUS YEARS

State of the Forest Report	Forest Cover in Km ²
2011	2219
2009	2151
2005	2164
2003	2156
2001	2095

2.3 RECORDED FOREST AREA

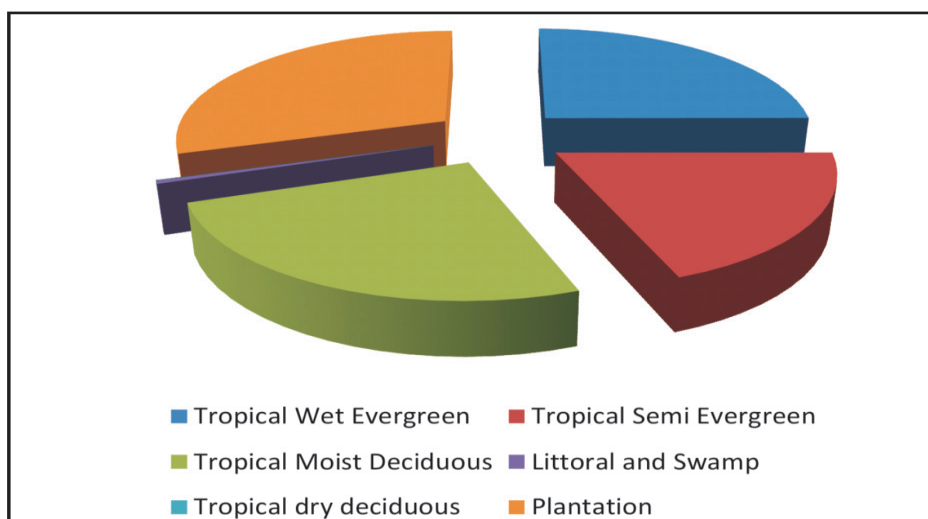
The total forest area of Goa is 1424.46 sq. km, out of which approximately 200 sq. km is privately owned. This amounts to 33.08% of the geographical area of Goa being government forest and 5.40% being private forest. 61.52% of Goa's geographical area is non-forest land.



2.4 FOREST TYPE CLASSIFICATION

The Forest Survey of India has mapped the forest types by using satellite data with reference to Champion and Seth Classification. As per this assessment in the State of Forest Report 2011, the state has 5 forest types which belong to five forest type groups

Sr.No.	Forest Type	Percentage area
1	Tropical Wet Evergreen	24.97
2	Tropical Semi Evergreen	19.33
3	Tropical Moist Deciduous	25.39
4	Littoral and Swamp	0.45
5	Tropical Dry Deciduous	0.01
6	Plantation	29.85



2.5 MANGROVES

The mangroves are salt tolerant plant communities found along the tropical and sub-tropical tidal regions of the world between 24 degrees north and 38 degrees south latitudes. These ecosystems are rich in biodiversity and the mangrove vegetation exhibit a number of morphological and physiological adaptations in order to survive in such harsh conditions characterized by lack of oxygen, high salinity and frequent tidal inundation. As per the SFR report 2011, the area of the mangrove vegetation was 22 Sq.Km. The district wise and density wise area under mangroves in the state of Goa is given below

(Area in sq. kms.)

District	Very Dense	Moderately Dense	Open	Total area
North Goa	0	16	1	17
South Goa	0	4	1	5
Total	0	20	2	22



Mangrove vegetation