

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1348**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2021

**Denotification of protected areas**

1348. SMT. VANDANA CHAVAN:

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

- (a) national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, protected areas denotified by Government, State/UT/ year-wise details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) Eco-Sensitive Zones denotified and clearance granted by the National Board of Wildlife, State/UT/year-wise details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) effects of denotification on wildlife, landscape and movement of animals, the details thereof;
- (d) steps to mitigate the damaging impacts of such denotification on ecology and wildlife, and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the criterion for considering an ecologically sensitive or protected zone for denotification and whether it is supported by any legislation, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) As per the information received from the State Governments, details of denotified protected areas are as follows: -

S. No.	Year	Name of the Protected area	State	Reason
1	2021	Megapode Wildlife Sanctuary	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	On account of complete submergence of the entire Wildlife Sanctuary due to the Tsunami.
2	2007	Saraswati Wildlife Sanctuary	Haryana	It was denotified as Wildlife Sanctuary as the main tree and animal species were eucalyptus and rhesus monkey. It was, however, declared as Conservation Reserve later.

3	2007	Bir Bara Ban Jind Wildlife Sanctuary	Haryana	It was denotified as Wildlife Sanctuary as the main tree and animal species were eucalyptus and rhesus monkey. It was, however, declared as Conservation Reserve later.
4	2018	Abubshehar Wildlife Sanctuary	Haryana	The whole sanctuary area was in agriculture fields owned by the farmers. It was, however, declared as Community Reserve later.
5	2020	Kachhua Wildlife Sanctuary	Uttar Pradesh	The area was no longer suitable for the purpose of protecting and propagating wildlife. To compensate for the loss of legally protected habitat, a continuous stretch of 30 km of the river Ganges was notified by the State Government as Kachhua Wild Life Sanctuary.

- (b) No proposal has been received from States/UTs for denotification of Eco-Sensitive Zones.
- (c)& (d) No adverse impact on the ecology and wildlife of the denotified areas has been reported.
- (e) As per the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection), Act 1972, no alteration of the boundaries of a sanctuary or National Park can be made by the State Governments except on a recommendation of the National Board for Wild Life. Besides, no alteration in the boundaries of a tiger reserve can be made except on the recommendation of the National Tiger Conservation Authority and the approval of the National Board for Wild Life.

The proposals submitted by States/UTs for alteration of the boundaries of protected areas are examined by the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wild Life. The proposals are recommended only if such alteration is not likely to cause any adverse impact on wildlife.

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