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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 505
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.07.2022

Encroachment on sanctuaries and protected areas

505. SHRI NEERAJ DANGI:

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

(a) whether there has been an increase in the cases related to encroachment on wildlife sanctuaries and protected areas;
(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to remove illegal encroachments; and
(c) whether Government is concerned about encroachment on wildlife sanctuaries and protected areas, if so, the details of cases related to encroachment and the action taken thereon, year-wise and location-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) to (c) The Ministry has not received any reports from the States/UT's indicating that there has been an increase in cases related to encroachment in wildlife sanctuaries and Protected Areas across the country. TheMinistryhaswritten to State Governments/UT Administrations to remove encroachments as per the existing Acts/Rules and to ensure that no further encroachment takes place. In order to prevent and control encroachments, the States and UTs take various measures such as demarcation and digitization of forest boundaries, strengthening infrastructure for forest protection, involving fringe area forest communities through Joint Forest Management Committees, Eco Development Committees etc.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change provides financial assistance to the States/UTs for protection and development of Protected Areas including measures aimed at prevention of encroachment.

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