

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2145
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.08.2026

Conservation of Protected Area

2145. SHRI ANIL KUMAR YADAV MANDADI:

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

- (a) the details of Protected Areas across the country; and
- (b) the details of steps taken to conserve, maintain and sustain the Protected Area considering their importance in the eco-system, and funds allocated therefor during the last five years, year-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a): As per the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, there are four categories of Protected Areas namely National Park, Sanctuary, Conservation Reserve and Community Reserve. There are 1134 Protected Areas in the country, the details are as below :

Protected Area	Number
National Park	106
Sanctuary	574
Conservation Reserves	145
Community Reserve	309
Total	1134

(b): The important steps taken for protection, conservation and management of Protected Areas in the country are as follows:

- i. The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 Act was amended in 2022, wherein schedules were rationalised and management plan for Protected Area has been made a statutory requirement.
- ii. The Ministry has issued various guidelines, advisories and Standard Operating Procedures in different thematic areas from time to time to ensure the safety and security of wildlife and their habitats. These include guidelines for preparation of Management Plans for Protected Areas under Section 33 and Tiger Conservation Plans under Section 38V of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
- iii. Eco-Sensitive Zones have been notified around Protected Areas to provide an additional safeguard.
- iv. Management Effectiveness Evaluation of National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries and Tiger Reserves is undertaken to assess and improve their management effectiveness.
- v. Focussed species conservation programme for 25 species such as snow leopard, Dugong, Dolphins, Bustards, Gharials, Sloth Bear etc. are supported.

- vi. The Ministry has released species action plans such as Marine Turtle Action Plan, Conservation action plan for caracal, fishing cat and clouded leopard, and Comprehensive action plan for Dolphin.
- vii. The Ministry provided financial assistance the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats for protection, conservation and management of wildlife and their habitats, based on the Annual Plans of Operation received from them. The activities supported under the Scheme include anti-poaching measures, strengthening of protection infrastructure, habitat improvement, management of human-wildlife conflict, wildlife monitoring, eco-development, ecotourism, capacity building of staff and awareness activities. Details of funds released to the States and Union Territories under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme during the last five years are as below:

Year	Funds released (in lakhs)
2021-22	33,541.41
2022-23	22,083.92
2023-24	33,947.55
2024-25	42,170.74
2025-26	25,371.51
