

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1364
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.12.2017

Eco-sensitive Zones of National Parks and Game Sanctuaries

1364. SHRI MALYADRI SRIRAM:

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

- (a) whether the Government has a specific policy to protect Eco-Sensitive Zones of National parks and Game sanctuaries across the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the safeguards being taken by the Government to ensure that there is total compliance in not diluting eco-sensitive zones and protected and restricted areas around National Parks and sanctuaries; and
- (c) the funds collected/released to States/UT's to protect eco-sensitive zones during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

- (a) The Government has a policy for protection of Eco-Sensitive Zones around National Parks and Sanctuaries. The Eco-Sensitive Zones around National Parks and Sanctuaries are notified in accordance with the Environment (Protection) Act, 1972 and contain prohibited, regulated and permissible activities.
- (b) The important steps to ensure/maintain the protection of Eco-Sensitive Zones around National parks include:
 - (i) Certain activities that are detrimental of biodiversity of National parks/Sanctuaries are prohibited in the Eco-Sensitive Zones, while other are regulated or permitted.
 - (ii) The activities in the Eco-Sensitive Zones are monitored by a Monitoring Committee, chaired by the District Collector as the chairman and the DCF of the concerned National Park/Sanctuary as the Member Secretary.

(iii) In pursuance of the order of Hon'ble Supreme Court, the Ministry of Environment and Forest issued an Office Memorandum No. J-11013/41/2006-IA. II(I) dated 2nd December 2009 stipulating that while granting environmental clearance to projects located within 10 km of National Parks and Sanctuary, a specific condition shall be stipulated that the environmental clearance is subject to their obtaining prior clearance from Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife.

(c) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has not collected/released funds for the purpose of protecting eco-sensitive zones around National Parks and Sanctuaries.
