

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 4460
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.07.2019

Buffer Zones for Conservation of Forests

4460. SHRI SANJAY HARIBHAU JADHAV:

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

- (a) whether the Government has developed any buffer zone in Maharashtra for the conservation for forests and protection of animals;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the legal status of the said buffer zones and the laws/rules under which these zones have been developed along with the area required for the buffer zones;
- (d) whether the Government has relaxed certain rules for the development of the said zones; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)

- (a) to (c) In accordance with the provisions contained in Section 38 V, sub-section (4), Explanation (ii) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, 'buffer' or peripheral area consisting of area peripheral to the critical tiger habitats or core are identified and established to ensure the integrity of the critical tiger habitat with adequate dispersal for tiger species and also aim at promoting co-existence between wildlife and human activity with due recognition of the livelihood, developmental, social and cultural rights of the local people. The limits of such areas are determined on the basis of scientific and objective criteria in consultation with the concerned Gram Sabha and an Expert Committee constituted for this purpose.

In Maharashtra, all the Tiger Reserves, viz, Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve, Melghat Tiger Reserve, Navegaon-Nagzira Tiger Reserve, Pench Tiger Reserve, Sahyadri Tiger Reserve and Bor Tiger Reserve have notified buffer zone in accordance with the above provision.

- (d) and (e) The Government has not relaxed any rules in this regard.
