

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4333
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.03.2023

Hotels/Resorts in Buffer Zone

4333. DR. DHAL SINGH BISEN:
SHRI THIRUMAAVALAVAN THOL:

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

- (a) whether the Government has fixed any criteria for opening resorts/hotels in the core and buffer area of National Parks and Tiger reserves, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has the data pertaining to the number of Hotels, Home stays, Resorts, staying places for tourists in the forest area, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the construction of the same are approved by the Ministry, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the number of resorts/hotels operating in National Parks and Tiger Reserves in Madhya Pradesh at present, including Balaghat Sivani district;
- (e) the details of the resorts/hotels in Madhya Pradesh which have been permitted to be opened during the last five years, district-wise including the Kanha and Pench National Park in Balaghat Sivani district;
- (f) whether the said hotels/resorts for which permission to open has been granted are complying with the criteria fixed by the Government in regard thereto, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (g) whether the Government proposes to take action for closure of the same, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

- (a) According to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, no construction of commercial tourist lodges, hotels, zoos and safari parks shall be undertaken inside a sanctuary or National Park except with the prior approval of the National Board for Wild Life.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has issued guidelines for sustainable eco-tourism in forest and wildlife areas which are aimed at promoting a better understanding of nature and wildlife conservation while generating income and opportunities for local communities in an ecologically, culturally, and economically sustainable manner.

Guidelines for establishment of tiger safaris in buffer and fringe areas of tiger reserves have been issued by the National Tiger Conservation Authority.

- (b) to (g) The information is not compiled by the Ministry.