

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1071**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.09.2020

**Ecologically Sensitive Areas**

1071. ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE:

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

- (a) whether the Government has issued final notification regarding demarcation of Ecologically Sensitive Areas (ESAs) in Western Ghats as per Kasturirangan report;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which final notification is likely to be issued;
- (c) the action taken by the Government on the recommendations submitted by the State Government of Kerala in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government has taken note of the delay in issuance of final notification which has affected developmental projects like construction of houses, schools, hospitals, roads etc.; 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 (e) The draft notification re-published by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change on 3rd October, 2018 based on Kasturirangan Report, is valid up to 26th September, 2020. The suggestions and feedback from the States and other stakeholders are under consideration for finalisation of the notification. The Government has been consistently making all efforts to bring all the States on board and for this purpose consultations have been held on 15th February, 2019, 21st May, 2020 and 9-10 July, 2020. Efforts are being made to finalise the notification taking into consideration the environmental concerns of the region while simultaneously accommodating the recommendations of the State Governments including Government of Kerala.

Till the finalisation of the notification, the directions issued by the Ministry on 13th November, 2013 in regard to administration of activities in the area proposed, in the draft notification are valid.

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