

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1107
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2010
EXPANSION OF BEAT AREA
Ray Shri Bishnu Pada

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of beats at present in Andaman and Nicobar Islands;
- (b) the average area of forest of each beat and number of staff posted there;
- (c) the equipments and amenities/ facilities made available to staff in each beat viz. Government accomodation, weapons, mobile phone, transport patrolling vessels, etc.
- (d) whether the Government proposed for expansion of the beat for effective monitoring of the forest; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

- (a) There are 185 beats including 10 marine beats in the Andaman & Nicobar Forest Department.
- (b) The average area per beat is approximately 22 sq.km. and 408 employees including industrial workers are posted for protection works.
- (c) The beat staff is provided with Very High Frequency sets, Engine dinghies for beat patrolling. The staff is also provided with government accommodation.
- (d) & (e) No. Expansion of the beats is not contemplated.