

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2877
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2010
NATIONAL PARKS AND SANCTUARIES
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

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

- (a) the details of the national parks and sanctuaries located in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether some of them have been ranked as the best;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any steps have been taken to declare some more national parks as the best and also to develop them as a model parks;
and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) There are 661 Protected Areas in the country covering around 4.8 % of the geographical area. There are 100 National Parks, 514 Wildlife Sanctuaries, 43 Conservation Reserves and 4 Community Reserves in the country. State wise details are placed at Annexure-I

(b) & (c) For Evaluation of the National Parks & Wildlife Sanctuaries, the Ministry of Environment & Forests has constituted 5 Regional Expert Committees controlled by the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun. As per their evaluation carried out so far, nine National Parks & Sanctuaries have been adjudged as `Very Good`. These are as under:

S.No State National Park/Sanctuaries

1. Assam Pabitora Wildlife Sanctuary, Orang (Rajiv Gandhi) National Park
2. Goa Mollem National Park
3. Himachal Pradesh Great Himalayan National Park
4. Kerala Eravikulam National Park
5. Manipur Keibul-Lamjao National Park
6. Rajasthan Keoladeo Ghana National Park
- 7 West Bengal Gorumara National Park, Singalila National Park

(d) & (e) The evaluation of Protected Areas is an ongoing process that is conducted on a regular basis. The ranking of the National Parks & Sanctuaries are done only after completion of the evaluation processes. Whereas all efforts are needed to strengthen the management of the Protected Areas, there is no such proposal to develop them as Nodal Parks.