GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3568 ANSWERED ON:29.07.2009 PROTECTED AREA NETWORK Sarvey Shri Sathyanarayana

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

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal for protected area network;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether various States intend to give incentives to communities to move out voluntarily from the core areas of reserves;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a)&(b): There is already a large network of Protected Areas in the country. It includes 99 National Parks, 515 Wildlife Sanctuaries, 43 Conservation Reserves and 4 Community Reserves. Further, the Central Government provides financial & technical assistance for conservation of wildlife including management of Protected Areas.

(c)to(e): The Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz; 'Project Tiger' and 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats' have provided for the voluntary relocation of villages from the core areas of Tiger Reserves and Protected Areas respectively. During the 11th five year plan period, the package for voluntary relocation has been increased to Rs.10.00 lakh per family from Rs.1.00 lakh. The State/UT Governments have been requested to avail these provisions of the existing Schemes for voluntary relocation of people from core areas of Tiger Reserves and Protected Areas. The details of financial assistance released under 'project Tiger' to State/UT Governments for relocation of villages from Tiger Reserves during the last financial year (2008-09) are at Annexure-I