GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4124 ANSWERED ON:19.12.2011 STATUS OF MANAS NATIONAL PARK Ajmal Shri Badruddin

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

- (a) whether the World Heritage Committee (WHC) has restored the status of 'Manas National Park' in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with any condition set by the UNESCO in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to submit an action taken report on the upgradation work to World Heritage Committee (WHC) by February, 2012; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a)to (e) The UNESCO World Heritage Committee (WHC) has removed Manas National Park, Assam, from the "List of World Heritage Sites in Danger" due to improvement in conservation and management status of the National Park. This decision was announced during the 35th Session of the WHC in Paris held during 19-29th June 2011. The decision calls for a report confirming that the Manas Tiger Conservation Foundation is operational and sustainable finance arrangements are in place for proper management of the property. It also seeks information on the progress achieved in the implementation of the integrated monitoring system and swamp deer recovery plan, as well as a comprehensive tourism management plan, by 1st February 2012 for consideration by the World Heritage Committee at its 36th session in 2012. State Government of Assam has already been requested for submission of the report to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, inter alia, containing details sought by World Heritage Committee for onward transmission to the World Heritage Committee before the prescribed date.