

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7202

ANSWERED ON:21.05.2012

DIVERSION OF LAND IN SANCTUARY

Mahendrasinh Shri Chauhan ;Patil Shri C. R. ;Shukla Shri Balkrishna Khanderao Balu Shukla

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has received proposal for diversion of land in Kutch Desert Sanctuary-Gujarat for construction of road from Kunaria to Mauvana;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this road is important from point of view of national security; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

(a),(b),(c)&(d) The Ministry of Environment and Forests had received a proposal from the Government of Gujarat for diversion of 79.474 ha of forest land in Kutch Desert Wildlife Sanctuary and Wild Ass Sanctuary for construction of Gaduli to Hajipur-Odma-Khavda-Kunaria-Dholavira-Maovana-Gadakbet-Santalpur Road (S.H. Road). The proposal involves development of border roads to meet security needs of the Border Security Forces (BSF). Since the proposal involves diversion of land from Wildlife Sanctuary, it was placed for consideration of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife in its meeting held on 25th April 2011 wherein it was decided to carry out a site inspection before taking a view in the matter. The site inspection report has since been received in the Ministry and would be placed before the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife for its consideration. However, no specific time can be attributed for this.