

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1026  
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2013  
CRITICAL WILDLIFE HABITATS  
Ajay Kumar SHRI

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

- (a) whether the Government has received any proposals from various State Governments including Jharkhand for declaration of some areas as Critical Wildlife Habitats in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Ministry has given approval for any of the proposals;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (f) The Government of Odisha had forwarded proposals to the Central Level Committee for notification of Chilka Nalaban Sanctuary, Gahirmatha Sanctuary and Chandaka Sanctuary as Critical Wildlife Habitats under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006. These proposals were considered by the Central Level Committee and were found to be incomplete. Therefore, the State Government was requested to submit revised proposal, which has not been received in the Ministry of Environment and Forests so far. However, no proposals from any other State/Union Territory Governments, including Jharkhand have been received in the Ministry of Environment and Forests, for declaration as Critical Wildlife Habitats. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has initiated steps for the 'Implementation Protocol for determination and notification of Critical Wildlife Habitats' in accordance with the provisions of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.