

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4392
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2013
PROTECTION OF ECOLOGY
Reddy Shri Modugula Venugopala

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

- (a) whether the buffer zones are necessary to save ecology in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this direction in each State during the 12th Five Year Plan period?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) Buffer zones/eco-sensitive zones around National Parks and Sanctuaries are considered desirable to ensure the integrity of the National Parks and Sanctuaries so that the same can act as a 'transition zone' from areas of higher protection to areas of lower protection. The decision for declaration of site specific eco-sensitive zones around National Parks and Sanctuaries under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, was taken by the National Board for Wildlife. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has requested the State/Union Territory Governments to forward site specific proposals for declaration of eco-sensitive zones. The state-wise details of proposals received for declaration eco-sensitive zones are at ANNEXURE.