

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4537

ANSWERED ON:22.04.2013

ENCROACHMENT IN PROTECTED AREAS

Laguri Shri Yashbant Narayan Singh;Tudu Shri Laxman

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

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to provide technical and financial assistance to the States for undertaking various activities in Protected Areas as well as prevention of encroachment in the said areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the said technical and financial assistance which were made to the States during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and

(d) the extent of success achieved as a result thereof?

Answer

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

(a)to(c) Under the various ongoing Centrally Sponsored Schemes viz., 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' financial assistance is provided to State Governments for various activities in Protected Areas based on the Management Plan/ Tiger Conservation Plan which inter-alia includes prevention of encroachment. The State Governments are provided technical support through Institutes like the Wildlife Institute of India, Indian Veterinary Research Institute and also through involvement of reputed NGOs which help them in various activities including census of major wildlife species, translocation of wild animals, preparation of Management Plans of Protected Areas on scientific parameters etc. Details of the State-wise financial assistance provided to the States during the last three years under Centrally Sponsored Schemes viz., 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' is given in the Annexure. No fund has been released to States during the current financial year, 2013-14 under these schemes.

(d) To assess the management effectiveness of the Protected Areas, the Ministry conducts Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE). The evaluation done in the past has rated 9 Protected Areas as Very Good, 22 as Good, 19 as Satisfactory and another 8 as Poor. In such exercise for Tiger Reserves, 15 were rated Very Good, 12 as Good, 8 as Satisfactory and 4 as Poor.