

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5515
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2013
ENCROACHMENTS OF NATIONAL PARKS
Singh Shri Ratan;Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.

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

- (a) whether the Government has compiled the cases belonging to encroachments on National Parks in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the manner in which the Government proposes to ensure proper functioning of National Parks in the country; and
- (d) the number of regulations made by the Government for the proper functioning of National Parks in the country?

Answer

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

(a),(b)&(c) There have been reports regarding encroachments of National Parks in the country from time to time. However, the details of such cases are generally not compiled at the level of Central Government.

Management of Protected Areas is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State/UT Governments. Encroachments in Protected Areas are prohibited under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, the Indian Forest Act, 1927 and the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and under the orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court issued from time to time. The Central Government has also issued advisories to the State/UT Governments for eviction of the encroachments from the forest lands. Moreover, under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant', the Government of India provides technical and financial assistance to the State Governments for undertaking various activities in Protected Areas including those aimed at the prevention of encroachments.

(d) Regulations have been made under sections 35 (5), 35(6),35(7), 35(8) as including sections 27 and 28, sections 30 to 32 (both inclusive) and clauses (a),(b), and (c) of section 33, section 33A and section 34 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 for proper functioning of the National Parks in the country.