

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2001  
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2013  
COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES AROUND WILDLIFE SANCTUARY  
Mutterwar Shri Vilas Baburao

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note that commercial activities are rapidly growing in the Girnar Hills close to the Wildlife sanctuary effecting adversely the environment;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c) The Ministry has received no concrete reports indicating a rapid growth in commercial activities close to Girnar Wildlife Sanctuary. However, activities taken up after due mandatory clearances cannot be ruled out. With a view to protect the habitat of the Girnar Wildlife Sanctuary, the Government of India has vide notification dated 31st May 2012 notified Eco-Sensitive Zone around the Girnar Wildlife Sanctuary. The said Eco-Sensitive Zone has a peripheral area of about 9317.58 ha. and includes 27 villages of Junagarh and Bhesan Talukas. The radius of the Eco-Sensitive Zone is 0 to 5 kms. All activities in the Girnar Eco-sensitive Zone shall be regulated in accordance with the provisions of the Eco-Sensitive Zone notification and also governed by the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, as provided in clause 3 of the notification.