

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2009
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2013
WILDLIFE PROTECTION ACT
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

- (a) whether the Government has made it mandatory to consult village council before declaring any area as a wildlife park or sanctuary;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government also proposes to bring Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 in conformity with the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild fauna and Flora;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which the necessary amendments are likely to be made in the Act?

Answer

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

- (a) and (b) An amendment has been proposed in the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 which includes a provision for consultation with Gram Sabhas before declaration of a Sanctuary/ National Park in Scheduled areas. The proposal also involves consultations with the Gram Sabhas in the management of Sanctuary/National Park that are declared in Scheduled Areas.
- (c), (d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The present proposed amendment in the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, envisages incorporation of the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild fauna and flora (CITES) in the Act. It has been proposed to introduce a new Chapter-V B for the 'Regulation of International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora as per the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora'. The Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Bill, 2013 has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 5th August 2013. No specific time frame can be attributed for passage of the Bill.