

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3351

ANSWERED ON:09.12.2009

SANCTUARIES,NATIONAL PARKS, AND BIOSPHERE RESERVES IN A & N ISLANDS

Ray Shri Bishnu Pada

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

- (a) the details of the Sanctuaries, National Parks and Biosphere Reserves that exist in Andaman and Nicobar Islands along with their area;
- (b) whether incidents of poaching/ encroachments have been reported in these areas during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) There are 9 National Parks and 96 Wildlife Sanctuaries in Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Details are placed at Annexure. There is only one Biosphere Reserve in Andaman and Nicobar Islands viz, the Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve, having an area of 1044 square Kilometers.

(b) & (c) Details of poaching as reported by the Andaman and Nicobar Administration are as follows:

Sl. No. Year Incidents of Poaching

1. 2006 One case of hunting of spotted deer.

2. 2007 One case of hunting of wild pig and
one case of poaching of Sea cucumber
and Trochus

3. 2008 One case of hunting of wild pig;
three cases of illegal fishing;
and two cases of poaching of sea
cucumbers and Trochus

4. 2009 One case of poaching of Trochus
and two cases of poaching of Sea
cucumber.

No case of encroachment is reported by the Administration
The important steps taken are as given below:

(d)

- (i) A network of Protected Areas has been established for conservation of wildlife and its habitats.
- (ii) The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 has been amended from time to time for better protection of wildlife.
- (iii) Stringent penalties are imposed on offenders for contravention of the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (iv) Financial and technical assistance is provided to the States/Union Territories under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes of the Ministry of Environment & Forests.
- (v) The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau has been established for control of illegal trade in wildlife and its products.