

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3007
ANSWERED ON:10.02.2014
RELOCATION OF VILLAGES FROM SANCTUARIES
Natarajan Shri P.R.

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

- (a) whether the Government has received any proposal from the State Governments for relocation of villages from wildlife sanctuaries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Tamil Nadu;
- (c) the details of existing wildlife sanctuaries and expected number of villages likely to be relocated from their wildlife sanctuaries in Tamil Nadu; and
- (d) the reaction of the dwellers of these villages and action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (Dr. M. VEERAPPA MOILY)

(a) to (d) Proposals for voluntary relocation of families from Wildlife Sanctuaries and Tiger Reserves have been received from the State Governments of Kerala (800 families), Madhya Pradesh (169 families and 9 villages) and Tamil Nadu. As per the information available with the Ministry, there are 21 existing Wildlife Sanctuaries in Tamil Nadu and the details of villages likely to be relocated, as informed by the State Government of Tamil Nadu, from the Tiger Reserve are given in the Annexure.

Subject to the availability of budgetary allocation under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Schemes of 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats' and 'Project Tiger', funding support is provided to States for voluntary village relocation, on mutually agreed terms and conditions, as per the provisions contained in the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, read with the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, with an enhanced package of Rs. 10 lakhs/ family.