

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3025
ANSWERED ON:10.02.2014
NATIONAL ELEPHANT CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Sugumar Shri K. ;Venugopal Shri P.

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

- (a) whether the Government has decided to set up a National Elephant Conservation Authority on the lines of existing National Tiger Conservation Authority in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to declare existing elephant reserves as Ecologically Sensitive Areas under the Environment Protection Act, 1986;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the provisions contained in the Act would make difficult to alter land use without prior permission of authorities; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) The proposal for creation of National Elephant Conservation Authority (NECA), as a part of the proposal for continuation the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Project Elephant' in XIIth Plan, was considered in the meeting of the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) in Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) on 25.06.2013. The committee did not recommend the proposal given the present lack of any enabling statutory provision in the law.

(c) to (f) No Sir.