

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2069
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2014
CRITICAL WILDLIFE HABITAT
Chaudhary Shri P.P.

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

- (a) whether the Government has issued notification regarding declaration of national parks and reserves as critical wild life habitats for protection of wildlife and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the said notification was withdrawn later;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Union Government has received proposals from the various State Governments for declaration of National Parks/reserves as critical wildlife habitats; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government on each of the proposal, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a)to (c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests had issued guidelines regarding identification of critical wildlife habitats on 7th February 2011. Thereafter, there had been representations from the conservationists, social scientists, civil society organizations, media etc., expressing concerns on the said guidelines. The Ministry had therefore, convened a meeting on 4th March 2011 to address the concerns raised, where the experts, etc were invited and had discussed the matter. In pursuance to the discussions held in the meeting, it was decided that the guidelines be withdrawn due to certain inadequacies.

(d) and (e) The Government had received proposals from the Government of Odisha for notification of Chilka Nalaban Sanctuary, Gahirmatha Sanctuary and Chandaka Sanctuary as critical wildlife habitats under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006. These proposals were considered by the Central level Committee and were found to be incomplete. The State Government has been intimated accordingly.