

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2803
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2014
WILDLIFE AND FORESTS CRIMES
Kulaste Shri Faggan Singh

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

- (a) whether wildlife and forests crimes have increased in the country during the last three years and the current year:
- (b) if so, the details thereof:
- (c) whether the Government is considering ways for early disposal of cases of wildlife and forests crimes; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a)(a) to (d) The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 empowers the Chief Wildlife Wardens and other authorized officers in States/Union Territories to exercise various powers related to prevention and detection of wildlife offences and prosecution of offenders.

Similarly, the Indian Forest Act, 1927 empowers various forest and police officers to exercises these powers in respect of forest offences.

The data related to wildlife and forest offences is not compiled in the Ministry. As such, there is no specific assessment, or reports otherwise, indicating any trend in wildlife and forest offences.

Further, the prosecution cases related to wildlife and forest offences are filed in the relevant courts by appropriate authorities in States/Union Territories, and the Central Government has no role in disposal thereof.