

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2751
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2014
CONSERVATION OF WORLD HERITAGE SITES
Venugopal Dr. Ponnusamy

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

- (a) whether the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has indicated that the World heritage sites such as the Western Ghats, Manas Wildlife Sanctuary, Kaziranga National Park and Sunderbans are facing significant conservation concerns;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto indicating the rating of all the Indian sites as categorized by IUCN; and
- (c) the corrective steps taken in this regard?

Answer

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

(a), (b) and (c) As per the information available in this Ministry, no conservation concerns have been indicated by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) on the Natural World Heritage Sites in India such as Western Ghats, Manas Wildlife Sanctuary, Kaziranga National Park and Sunderbans.

However, regarding Manas Wildlife Sanctuary, during the 38th Session of World Heritage Committee, the Government of India has been requested to submit a report regarding issues related to encroachments, rehabilitation of degraded areas and reported surge in the poaching of one-horned Rhino.