

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3685
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2014
ECO SENSITIVE ZONES
Charitra Shri Ram

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

- (a) whether information on eco-sensitive zones would be made available through the GIS based Decision Support System in its second phase;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is true that the system would have the Net Present Value of forests, important wildlife habitats outside the Protected Area Network, apart from the recorded forest area boundaries; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change has launched a Geographical Information System (GIS) based Decision Support System (DSS) to facilitate objective and informed and predictable decisions on applications seeking prior approval of Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for non-forest purpose. This DSS presently does not include eco-sensitive zone layers of protected areas. The geo-referenced layers containing boundaries of eco-sensitive zones of protected areas are proposed to be incorporated in the DSS.

(c) & (d) The geo-referenced layers on Net Present Value of forests, important wildlife habitats outside the Protected Area Network and the recorded forest areas are proposed to be incorporated in the DSS.