

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:90  
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2007  
ENCROACHMENT OF NATIONAL PARKS  
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**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether many national parks have been encroached upon;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, park-wise; and
- (c) the remedial measures taken/proposed in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (b) As per the information received from the States, there are reports of encroachments in some National Parks. The details are at Annexure.

(c) Management of National Parks is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State/UT Governments. Encroachments in National Parks are prohibited under the provisions of Indian Forest Act, 1927, the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, and the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and the orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court issued from time to time. The Central Government have also, vide their letter No.7-16/2002-FC dated 3-5-2002, issued detailed guidelines to all the State/UT Governments for eviction of all in-eligible encroachments from the forest lands. More over, under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes- Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries, Project Tiger and Project Elephant, the Government of India provides technical and financial assistance to the National Parks for various activities including those aimed at the prevention of encroachments.

The specific remedial measures taken by the States to prevent encroachments are as below:

- (a) Consolidation and demarcation of Park boundaries.
- (b) Fixing of signages cautioning penal clause for encroachment.
- (c) Bringing the areas under afforestation on priority after eviction.
- (d) Excavation of boundary trenches/ Elephant proof trenches and construction of masonry rubble wall.
- (e) Taking legal action against encroachers as per law.