

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2859
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2014
NATIONAL BOARD OF WILDLIFE
Chaudhury Shri Jitendra;Dev Km. Sushmita

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

- (a) whether the National Board of Wildlife (NBW) has been constituted by the Government;
- (b) if so, the terms of reference of the Board;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which it is likely to be constituted;
- (d) whether many projects including Agartala-Sabroom Railway line are pending for clearance due to non-constitution of NWB; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken for clearance of these pending projects?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) The National Board for Wildlife has been re-constituted on 22nd July 2014. As per Section 5 C of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, the functions of the National Board include:

- i. To promote the conservation and development of wild life and forests by such measures as it thinks fit.
- ii. Framing policies and advising the Central Government and the State Governments on the ways and means of promoting wild life conservation and effectively controlling poaching and illegal trade of wild life and its products;
- iii. Making recommendations on the setting up of the management of national parks, sanctuaries and other protected areas and on matters relating to restriction of activities in those areas;
- iv. Carrying out or causing to be carried out impact assessment of various projects and activities on wild life or its habitat;
- v. Reviewing from time to time, the progress in the field of wild life conservation in the country and suggesting measures for improvement thereto; and
- vi. Preparing and publishing a status report at least once in two years on wild life in the country.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(d) & (e) About 233 proposals, including the proposal for diversion of 9.94 ha of forest land from Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of New Railway Line Broad Gauge (BG) between Agartala to Sabroom, Tripura, are pending for clearance of the Standing Committee of NBWL for the last one year. The details are as given below:

Proposals considered during previous meetings for decision by the Standing Committee of NBWL	72
Fresh proposals falling within Protected Areas	43
Fresh proposals falling within 10 kms from Protected Areas	56
Incomplete proposals	62
Total	233

The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change has re-constituted the Standing Committee of NBWL. The first meeting of the newly re-constituted Standing Committee has been fixed for 12th August 2014. Proposals for clearance shall also be considered in the said meeting of the Standing Committee of NBWL.