

1	2	3	4
Mizoram	5.20	3.10	2.82
Nagaland	8.91	5.74	8.31
Punjab	19.44	NA	NA
Rajasthan	51.28	131.81	111.00
Sikkim	9.34	12.47	NA
Tamil Nadu	NA	NA	NA
Telangana	82.08	108.21	NA
Tripura	9.83	11.86	11.01
Uttar Pradesh	412.92	629.40	NA
Uttarakhand	349.06	358.50	322.21
West Bengal	135.69	86.74	126.22
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	20.80	25.20	26.12
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	NA	NA	NA
Puducherry	NA	NA	NA

#### Eco-sensitive areas in Western Ghats

1611. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is finding it difficult to bring on board various States for earmarking Eco-Sensitive Areas (ESA) in Western Ghats;
- (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has made any fresh attempt to bring consensus among various States to declare certain areas as Eco-Sensitive Areas (ESA) in Western Ghats;
- (d) if so, details thereof; and
- (e) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) The draft Notification to declare Ecologically Sensitive Areas (ESA) of the Western Ghats has been republished thrice. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) had issued first draft

Notification on 10.02.2014 *vide* S.O. 733 (E). Thereafter, the draft Notification has been re-published on 04.09.2015 *vide* S.O. 2435 (E); on 27.02.2017 *vide* S.O. 667 (E) and on 03.10.2018 *vide* S.O. 5135 (E)

(c) to (e) The Government has been consistently making all efforts to bring the six States, namely Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu on board. In order to follow a coherent and consistent approach in Notifying the ESA of Western Ghats, this Ministry has interacted with all the States of the Western Ghats region at various levels on 15th January 2016; 9th to 11th February 2016; 11th August, 2016 and 11th April 2018. After publishing the latest draft Notification on 03.10.2018, fresh meeting has been held on 15th February, 2019.

#### **Critically endangered species**

1612. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, Government has identified critically endangered species for taking up focused programme of conservation and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Botanical Survey of India (BSI) and Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) have conducted any survey/census to find out the number of important species of flora and fauna in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) Presently the Ministry has identified 21 critically endangered species for the focused conservation programme under the component of „Recovery programmes for saving critically endangered species and habitats” in the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of „Development of Wildlife Habitats”. The list of 21 critically endangered species is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c) As per information received, the Botanical Survey of India (BSI) has conducted the following projects to find out the population status of Orchids of India since 2013 in the Eastern Himalayan and Western Ghats of the country.

- (i) An assessment of Orchid diversity of Central Western Ghats: Goa
- (ii) Red listing of orchids of Arunachal Pradesh as per IUCN criteria
- (iii) Red listing of orchids of eastern Himalayas as per IUCN criteria.