

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 49**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.02.2023**

**Eco Sensitive Zone (ESZ)**

49. SHRI JOSE K. MANI:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that various State Governments are in disagreement with regard to the recent decision of the Supreme Court to declare one km distance from forests and natural parks as Eco Sensitive Zone (ESZ);
- (b) whether Government has any plans to come up with a suitable legislation which would dilute the mandatory minimum width of one kilometer ESZ, so as to exclude the human settled areas for declaration of ESZ especially in densely populated states like Kerala, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government would approach the Supreme Court with a review petition?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) to (c) The Order dated 03.06.2022 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in IA No. 1000 of 2003 in W.P(C) No. 202 of 1995: T.N. Godavarman Thirumulpad Vs Union of India and Others has given detailed directions which have a bearing on the extent of the Eco-Sensitive Zones (ESZ) and the activities prescribed and provided in relation thereto. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has filed an application for modification / clarification of the said Order dated 03.06.2022 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The matter is pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

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