

डॉ. हर्ष वर्धन
Dr. Harsh Vardhan



भारत सरकार
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्री
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST &
CLIMATE CHANGE

D.O.No.6/10/2017-ESZ

Date: 31st May, 2017

Dear Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar ji,

This has reference to the matter raised by you during Zero Hour in the Rajya Sabha on 05.04.2017 regarding destruction of Ecologically Sensitive Western Ghats.

In this regard, I would like to inform you that based on the recommendation of the High Level Working Group (HLWG) my Ministry had issued order prohibiting the activities those have maximum interventionist and destructive impacts on natural ecosystems of the Western Ghats Ecologically Sensitive areas.

In addition, a draft notification to declare Ecologically Sensitive Areas of the Western Ghats region was issued by my Ministry with a contiguous area of 56825 sq kms spread over six states, namely Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Goa, Maharashtra, & Gujarat. The draft Notification was republished on 27.02.2017 for seeking comments from different stakeholders. The state Governments of the Western Ghat States have also been intimated to send their final recommendation on the draft Notification and Maps for further consideration of this Ministry for finalization of the Notification.

The Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science & Technology, Environment & Forests has recently visited Munnar and discussed with the State Government, and Local NGOs about the protection and conservation of the Biodiversity Hotspots of the Western Ghats.

I am also forwarding the matter raised by you to the State Government for addressing it appropriately.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Dr Harsh Vardhan)

✓ Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar,
Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha)
7, Gurudwara Rakab Ganj Road
New Delhi-110001.

Copy to :
Shri Herman Lakra, Section Officer (Legislative-2), Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, 86-B, Sansad Bhawan,
New Delhi