

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4527

ANSWERED ON:18.12.2000

SETTING UP OF SPECIAL UNIT TO COMBAT WILDLIFE CRIMES

BHUMA NAGI REDDY;GADDE RAMAMOCHAN;M.V.V.S MURTHI;SHIVAJI MANE;SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

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

- (a) whether a London based N.G.O. Environment Investigating Agency has criticised India for its failure to protect Tigers;
- (b) whether it has suggested for setting up a specialised Enforcement Unit to combat wildlife crime and illicit trade;
- (c) if so, whether the Government have set up any special unit to combat wildlife crimes and illicit trade;
- (d) if not, the reasons for not setting up of the said unit so far; and
- (e) the time by which the same is likely to be set up?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI T.R.BAALU)

(a), (b),&(c): Environment Investigating Agency has been monitoring wildlife conservation efforts in this country on a regular basis. During the course it learnt about the initiative of this Ministry to establish a specialised unit for combating wildlife crime and preventing illicit trade in wildlife products. EIA has criticised the delay in setting up the specialised unit.

(d) & (e): The Central Government has imposed restrictions on the creation of new posts with a view to right size the Government .In view of this situation final decision on setting up of specialised unit has not been taken so far.