

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:62
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2002
ILLEGAL TRADING OF ENDANGERED BIRDS
PRENEET KAUR

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

(a) whether the Government are aware that despite laws and rules the bird catchers in India are still trading in many endangered and rare birds; and

(b) if so, the steps the Government have taken so far to check the same?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Trade in rare and endangered species of birds is prohibited. However, some incidences of illegal trade of birds are detected from time to time and are dealt with as per the provisions of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Following steps have been taken to make the implementation of the Act more effective.

(1) Steps taken at the State level:

(i) State level and District level coordination committees have been set up in states to prevent poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

(ii) Regular checking of the stocks of dealers in birds is done by the officers of State Wildlife Wing.

(2) Steps taken at National level

(i) Government of India has set up Regional and Sub-regional Offices for wildlife preservation in major export and trade centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wild animals and their products.

(ii) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders. Anti poaching efforts are being coordinated with INTERPOL.

(iii) Export of wild animals and their derivatives is prohibited under EXIM policy.

(3) Steps taken at International level.

(i) Government of India seeks international co-operation under the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) for control of illegal trade in wildlife items.