

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1188
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2002
SURVEY OF ENDANGERED SPECIES BY ZSI
SHYAMA SINGH

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

- (a) whether the Union Government had directed the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) during 1987 to conduct survey to find out the status of endangered species as reported in 'The Hindu' dated April 12, 2002 ;
- (b) if so, whether the ZSI has failed to make any serious efforts to complete the task even till date;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the further steps taken by the Government to complete the project ?

Answer

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

- (a) Yes, sir. The Union Government had directed ZSI in 1987 to conduct and complete the status survey of endangered 81 species of mammals, 47 of birds, 15 of reptiles, 3 of amphibians and a large number of butterflies, moths and beetles.
- (b) The studies on status survey of 11 endangered species have already been completed. Further, studies on 3 more endangered species (Chinkara, Desert Cat, Western Tragopan) have recently been completed. In addition to this, studies on 9 species (Birgus latro, Kiang, Himalayan marmot, Lion tailed Macaque, Rhesus Macaque, Hanuman Langur, Nilgiri Thar, Irawady Dolphin, Giant Squirrel) are in progress.
- (c) & (d) Efforts have already been made as indicated above and the project is going on smoothly.