

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2046
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2002
WILDLIFE SEIZURE PROJECT
M. JAGANNATH

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

- (a) whether attention of the Union Government has been drawn towards the news-item captioned "WWF 'red tape' spells end for wildlife seizure project" appearing in the Indian Express dated July 6, 2002;
- (b) if so, the details and the fact thereof;
- (c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto;
- (d) whether the Union Government propose to review and give life to programme of WWF-Traffic India; and
- (e) if so, the efforts made so far by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a), (b), (c), (d) & (e) TRAFFIC-India was helping conservation efforts of the Government by providing intelligence and helping in apprehending the persons indulging in illegal trade of wildlife and its products. There are many other NGOs in Delhi doing similar type of work. Further, the Government has involved CBI, Customs Department and Directorate of Revenue Intelligence in control of poaching and illegal trade of wildlife products. Under these circumstances termination of TRAFFIC-India project of WWF is unlikely to have any adverse impact on the wildlife conservation efforts in the country. Closure of TRAFFIC-India is internal matter of WWF and it will not be appropriate for Government of India to intervene in the matter.