

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:862  
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2003  
BAN ON PERFORMANCE OF ANIMALS  
GADDE RAMAMOCHAN

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

- (a) whether the Government had banned the performance of Lions, Tigers, Leopards, Bears and Monkeys during 1998;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government have any data of these animals which are still with the circus owners in pitiable conditions;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government have expressed their inability to accept these animals thereby forcing their movement around in cages in unhygienic conditions;
- (f) if so, the facts thereof; and
- (g) the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. Government, vide Notification dated 14th October, 1998, banned training and exhibition of five species of animals viz., tigers, panthers, lions, bears and monkeys whereby extracting performance from these five species by anyone including circuses became illegal and punishable under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act. The reason for issuing this Order was to prevent unnecessary pain and suffering which is inflicted on these animals during their training and exhibition.

(c) & (d) The statement at Annexure gives the number of banned animals still in possession with the circuses.

(e) & (f) Some of the circus companies have challenged the legality of the directive issued by the Central Government asking States to take possession of animals of these specified species whose performance has been banned and rehabilitate them at Rescue Centres established by the Central Zoo Authority. The matter is sub judice.

(g) The Central Zoo Authority would take necessary action for rescue and rehabilitation of the animals still in possession of the circuses as per the Court's directive.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (c) AND (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 862 TC  
ANSWERED ON 8.12.2003 REGARDING BAN ON PERFORMANCE OF ANIMALS

**NUMBER OF BANNED ANIMALS IN POSSESSION WITH CIRCUSES**

S.No	Circus Name	Lion	Tiger	Leopard / Panther	Bear	Monkey
1	Amar Circus	8	1	9		
2	Apollo Circus	11		11		
3	Asian Circus	7		7		
4	Gemini Circus	16	3	2	4	3
5	Great Bombay Circus	27				27
6	Great Golden	11	2	13		
7	Great Royal Circus	9				9
8	Jumbo Circus	31	15	4	2	52
9	Kohinoor Circus	2		1	3	6
10	Moonlight Circus	14		1	4	19
11	Natraj Circus	9	10			19
12	New Great Circus	15		2		17
13	Olympic Circus	3	11	2	2	18
14	Raja Circus	5		5		
15	Rajmahal Circus	1	1		2	
16	Samrat Circus	12	4	2	1	19
17	The Great Royal Circus	11	6			17
	<b>Total</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>278</b>

