

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:312
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2001
DEATHS OF ANIMALS AND BIRDS
P.D. ELANGO VAN;PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL

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

- (a) Whether a large number of wild animals like tigers, tigresses, bears, rhinos as well as birds have been killed or died the last years and as on date :
- (b) If so, the details thereof and the reason therefore, category-wise and National Zoological Park/ Sanctuary-wise
- (c) the out come of the inquiries conducted , if any and the action taken by the Government in each of the incidents :
- (d) the target fixed for the Project Tiger for 9th Plan and the achievement made so far :
- (e) the steps taken for conservation and protection of these animals and birds in parks and sanctuaries :
- (f) the number of National Zoological Parks closed so far due lack of scientific management ; and
- (g) the concrete steps taken by the Government to provide adequate trained doctors for treatment and care of these animals and birds ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BALLU)

(a) and (b) Instances of Poaching cases of tigers and rhinos detected in various National Park and Wildlife Sanctuaries are given in Statement -I.

National Park/ Wildlife Sanctuary-wise break up in respect of bear is not available. No instances of poaching of birds in national parks / Sanctuary have been reported to Central Government. Most of the cases of birds poaching / Poisoning have been reported from outside protected areas.

While the data regarding natural death of tigers, rhinos and bears is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House, the data regarding birds cannot be compiled because most of the carcasses get recycled in nature through predation and other processes.

(c) Whenever any case of poaching is detected, the responsibility of investigations and prosecuting the offenders is that of Forest Department in various States. Government of India has handed over the following cases to Central Bureau of Investigation for inquiry

(i) Seizure of 3 nos. of tiger skins , 50 nos. of Leopard skins and 5 nos. of Otter skins at Sahibabad, Uttar Pradesh border on 18.12.1999.

(ii) Seizure of 4 nos. of Tiger skins, 70 nos. of Leopard skins, 180000 nos. of Leopard claws, 132 nos. of Tiger claws and 221 nos. of Black Buck skins at Khaga on 12.1.2000.

(iii) Seizure of 50 nos. of Leopard skins at Haidwani on 6.5.2000.

(iv) Seizure of 30 nos. of Leopard skins at Haidwani on 21.5.2000

(v) Central Bureau of investigation seized 70 shawls in Delhi on 2.2.2001. Of these 26 are pure Shahtoosh shawls and 44 are suspected. Investigation in this regard is being done by CBI.

(d) Out of six new Tiger Reserve proposed to be set up during the 9th five year plan. Four have already been approved by the central Government. These are as follows:

1. Bhadra Tiger Reserve in Karnataka
2. Pench Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra

3. Pakhui-Nameri Tiger Reserve in Arunachal Pradesh-Assam

4. Bori-Satpura-Panchmari Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh

The remaining two reserves will be approved shortly.

(e) The steps taken by the Government for conservation and protection on animals and birds in parks and sanctuaries are given in Statement -IV

(f) 37 Zoos/Deer Parks have already been closed down because of lack of scientific management. The list is enclosed as Statement-V.

In addition, the state Government have been asked to close down another 64 Deer parks/ Mini Zoos that have been refused recognition by Central Zoo Authority.

(g) following steps have been taken to provide trained doctors for treatment and care of animals and birds:

(i) Nine months training course in Animal Health Care and Diseases is organised at IVRI, Izatnagar.

(ii) Two workshops on Zoo Animal Health Care and Husbandry Management have been organised by Central Zoo Authority

(iii) Central Zoo Authority has sponsored six veterinarians from zoos for specialized training courses in U.K.

(iv) A workshop on Basis of Zoo Animal Management is being organised at New Delhi in April, 2001.

(v) Where ever feasible veterinary doctors have also been appointed on contract basis.