

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:195
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2002
RESCUE OF ANIMALS FROM CIRCUSES
MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI

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

- (a) the details of circuses who have yet not surrendered the five species of animals which has been ordered by the Hon`ble Supreme Court not to be displayed for performance;
- (b) the details of action taken by the Government to cancel their licences;
- (c) the number of such species which are yet being used in these circuses at present;
- (d) the number of such species which died during the last one year and thereafter; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government for rescue of such species?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BALU):

- (a) Government of India, vide its notification G.S.R. 619 (E) dated 14.10.1998 banned the performance of five species of wild animals. The Supreme Court also upheld the decision of Central Government. The list of circuses who have not surrendered the five species is given in the statement enclosed.
- (b), (c) and (e) The power to cancel ownership certificate vests with the State Chief Wildlife Wardens. The Government of India has, therefore, requested the Chief Wildlife Wardens of the State to cancel the ownership certificates issued to circuses with respect to the five species. 234 animals have so far been seized and rehabilitated at 5 rescue centres established by Government of India. About 337 more animals continue to be with the circuses.
- (d) Out of 234 animals which were rehabilitated 7 have died during last one year (1.11.2001 to 30.10.2002).