

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3691
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2006
KILLING OF MONGOOSE
Jagannath Dr. M.

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

(a) whether lakhs of mongoose protected under the Part II of Schedule II of Wildlife Act are being killed every month for their high quality hair for manufacture of various kinds of painting brushes; and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken to protect the animals?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (b) Isolated incidents of illegal killing of mongoose and seizure of mongoose hair and painting brushes made thereof have been reported from time to time. The steps taken by the Government for protection of this species are as follows:

(i) Mongoose is included in the Part II of Schedule II of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, thus affording high degree of Protection under the Act.

(ii) Hunting of mongoose is prohibited under the provisions of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

(iii) Officers are legally empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to detain and arrest the offenders, seize the vehicles, tools, animal, and animal articles etc.

(iv) Financial assistance is provided to the State Government for development and management of the Protected Areas which include the habitat of mongoose.

(v) Export of all forms of wild animals including their parts and products is prohibited under the Export-Import policy of the country.

(vi) Regional and sub-regional offices of Wildlife Preservation have been set up at the main export centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wildlife products.

(vii) Stringent penalties are imposed on the offenders for contravention of the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.