

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:45
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2007
POPULATION OF ONE- HORNED RHINOS
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the funds provided to Kaziranga Park during the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) the number of one-horned Rhinos, Elephants and other rare wild animals in the National Park at the end of each year; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken to provide due support to the development and maintenance of the park and to increase the population of one-horned Rhinos?

Answer

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

- (a) The financial assistance provided to Kaziranga National Park during the last three years, scheme-wise, is as under:

S.No.	Year	Name of the Scheme	Development of National Parks (Rs. lakhs) and Sanctuaries (Rs.lakhs)	Project Elephant (Rs.lakhs)
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|----|---------|--------|-------|--|
| 1. | 2003-04 | 50.00 | 1.80 | |
| 2. | 2004-05 | 153.00 | 11.45 | |
| 3. | 2005-06 | 83.60 | 8.84 | |

- (b) The details of population of Rhino, Elephant and other rare wild animals in the Kaziranga National Park based on various census figures are at Annexure.

Under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes- 'Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries' and 'Project Elephant', the Central Government provides necessary technical and financial assistance to the Government of Assam for the development and maintenance of Kaziranga National Park. The following steps have been taken to provide due support to the development and maintenance of the Park and to increase the population of one-horned Rhinos:

1. Anti poaching patrolling by the frontline staff.
2. Creation of high raised earthen platform for taking shelter by the marooned animals during flood seasons.
3. Habitat improvement.
4. Infrastructure enhancement.
5. Habitat manipulation by weeding, desilting of wetlands etc.
6. Capacity building and improvement of human resources.

Awareness in the fringe areas of Kaziranga National park