

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:842  
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2007  
DEATH OF STRAY LEOPARD  
Vijay Krishna Shri

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

- (a) whether any incidence of death of leopard in Pulwama (Jammu and Kashmir) has come to the notice of the Union Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken in this regard to prevent such recurrence?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) As per the information received from the State Government of Jammu & Kashmir, a leopard strayed into the Cheki-Chhoti Pora Village, Shopian, Pulwama District and took shelter in a pine tree on 17-01-2007. The field staff of the Forest Department and the Wildlife Protection staff from Hirpora Wildlife Sanctuary reached the spot immediately. In the mean time, a large number of people had already gathered on the spot. Police personnel were also called in as the field staff alone could not control the mob. Due to persisted shouting of the mob, the leopard finally jumped off the tree and injured two persons among the mob. The angry mob then chased the animal and killed it with lathies and stones. As per the postmortem report, the animal had 'died due to head injury and excessive bleeding through nostrils and mouth'. There was no bullet mark on the body of the said leopard.

(c) The Government of India under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as 'Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' provides technical and financial assistance to the States for effective protection and conservation of wildlife. The various activities for which assistance is provided include developing better communication facilities, infrastructure development, habitat improvement, compensation to wildlife victims, veterinary care, education and awareness etc. In addition, the Jammu & Kashmir Government has also taken the following steps to ensure the safety of wild animals:

1. Setting up of control rooms at Divisional levels to attend to the problem of human - wildlife conflict.
2. Massive awareness campaign for the masses through print and electronic media.
3. Visits of Wildlife personnel to the conflict prone villages for educating the locals regarding preventive measures to be adopted.
4. Setting up of village level committees for creating awareness.