

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3080

ANSWERED ON:20.12.2004

. DEATH OF PACHYDERMS

Barman Shri Ranen;Baxla Shri Joachim;Bose Shri Subrata

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that between April and October, 2004 seventy seven Pachyderms have been found dead in the Nagarhole area of Karnataka;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has formed any enquiry commission to look into the matter;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the findings of the commission;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps the Government has taken/proposes to take to stop recurrence of such incidence in future?

Answer

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

- (a) As informed by the State Government, death of only 13 elephants has been reported in Nagarhole National Park during the period from April to October, 2004.
- (b) One of the elephant is reported to have been killed by poachers. The remaining 12 elephants have died due to natural reasons, such as old age, accidents, diseases etc.,
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) Out of 13 elephants 12 have died due to natural reasons. Therefore enquiry by officers instead of enquiry commission is enough.
- (f) Karnataka Forest Department has set up anti poaching camps in Nagarhole National Park and intensified patrolling by field staff. Immunization of cattle on the fringe areas is being carried out to prevent spread of diseases among wild elephants. Government of India has provided an amount of Rs 150.00 lakhs under Project Tiger during the current financial year for Nagarhole National Park for protection and management of tigers and other wild animals and their habitat.