

harassment is caused to commuters. If any complaint of harassment comes to notice, suitable action is taken against the erring Home Guards/Police personnel.

(d) and (e). No proposal to empower the Home Guards to challan and collect fine is under consideration. As per Motor Vehicle Rules, only Traffic personnel, not below the rank of Sub-Inspector, are empowered to challan and compound fine from persons who violate the traffic rules.

[Translation]

Passenger Amenities

2215. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether passenger amenities are lacking at the railway stations in Delhi;

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard;

(c) the quantum of funds sanctioned during the last three years for providing passengers amenities at various railway stations in Delhi; and

(d) the details of the facilities likely to be provided by Railway administration in Delhi in near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) 1993-94 : Rs. 740.34 lakh;
1994-95 : Rs. 1159.70 lakh;
1995-96 : Rs. 2144.11 lakh.

(d) Provision/augmentation of amenities at railway stations is a continuous process and the same is undertaken wherever so warranted due to growth in traffic, depending on the availability of funds. Stations in Delhi area are provided with amenities commensurate with the level of traffic handled at present. Major works pertaining to provision of second entry at Delhi Jn. and Hazrat Nizamuddin, widening and improvement to the existing entry and circulating area at Hazrat Nizamuddin have already been taken up.

[English]

Integrated Fisheries Project

2216. SHRI E. AHAMED : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of fish processed and marketed through Integrated Fisheries Project (IFP), Kochi during each of the last three years till date;

(b) whether any foreign assistance is being received for this project; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The quantity processed and marketed by the Integrated Fisheries Project, Kochi during the last three years till date is as under :

S.No.	Year	Quantity Processed (MT)	Quantity Marketed (MT)
1.	1993-94	238.3	121.1
2.	1994-95	304.5	183.8
3.	1995-96	227.0	147.0
4.	1996-97	29.7	28.7

(Upto June, 1996)

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Gir Lions

2217. SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Sanctuary becomes a trap for the lion" appearing in the Indian Express dated June 11, 1996;

(b) if so, the latest assessment about the number of lions in the Sasan Gir Forest Sanctuary and their number in 1991;

(c) the reasons for the fast dwindling population of the lions in the sanctuary; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government for better preservation and promotion of the wildlife in the Sanctuary?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per latest assessment of 1995 the lion population in Gir Sanctuary and National park was 304. The corresponding figure for the previous census done in 1990 was 284.

(c) and (d). There is no decline in the population of wild cats in Gir as is evident from the above figures. The State Wildlife Authorities are undertaking all necessary protection, conservation and habitat improvement activities for the development of the Gir Sanctuary and National Park and its wildlife. In addition, this Ministry is also providing financial assistance to the State for

the development of Gir and for ecodevelopment in its vicinity. The funds provided so far during the VIII plan are as follows :

Name of Scheme	Rs. in lakhs
(i) Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries	17.10
(ii) Eco-development around National Parks and Sanctury.	16.480

[Translation]

Building for Cooperative Banks

2218. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Cooperative Banks in Uttar Pradesh not housed in Government buildings, and

(b) the measures proposed to be taken by the Government to provide Government buildings to Zila Sahakari Banks particularly in Lalitpur District and also to ensure that there is no violation of the agreements already signed between the landlords and these banks?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh and a Statement will be laid on the Table of the House.

Smuggling of Wildlife Articles

2219. SHRI RAM SAGAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that wildlife articles are being smuggled out from the country, particularly from Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh to China, Nepal and other countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government to check the smuggling of wildlife articles.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of wildlife articles being smuggled out of the country which were seized in the last 1 year by the Regional Deputy Directors of Wildlife of this Ministry located at Delhi, Calcutta, Mumbai and Madras, are given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) The action taken to check the smuggling of wildlife articles include :

(i) Hunting of wild animals included in

Schedules I to IV of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, has been banned by law.

- (ii) Special measures for protection and conservation of tiger, elephants and rhinos and their habitat are being implemented.
- (iii) A network of 441 wildlife sanctuaries and 80 National Parks covering 1,48,000 sq. km. has been set up for conservation of wild flora and fauna. Financial assistance is provided by the Central Government for development of national parks and sanctuaries on request from the State Governments.
- (iv) This Ministry has set up a National Coordination Committee consisting of representative of all major enforcement organisations such as: Customs, Revenue intelligence, CBI, Police, BSF, ITBP, RPF and foreign Post Office, Traffic-India and Wildlife authorities to enable effective inter-departmental cooperation and coordination to deal with the problem of illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products.
- (v) Training programmes on enforcement and implementation of wildlife and other related laws and international conventions have been organised for all the enforcement agencies in February and November, 1995.
- (vi) Raids are carried out by the wildlife authorities, in cooperation with other enforcement agencies if necessary, whenever information of illegal trading in wildlife is received.
- (vii) India is a signatory to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) under which international trade in endangered species and their parts and derivatives is strictly regulated.
- (viii) Rewards are given to informers for gathering intelligence regarding illegal trade and smuggling of wildlife products.
- (ix) A Committee set up by this Ministry to look into issues related to illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products has recommended specific measures to deal with this problem and these are being followed up with the States for implementation.
- (x) Regional and Sub-regional offices of Wildlife Preservation have been set-up mostly at the main export centres of the country to prevent illegal trade and smuggling of wildlife products.