

Diseases to Animals in Zoos and Wild Life Sanctuaries

4702. SHRI K. MALLANNA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of animals in the country's zoos including Delhi National Park and Wild life sanctuaries are affected with tuberculosis and other dreaded diseases ;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted in this regard ; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard and the reaction of Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R.V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Occurrence of Tuberculosis and other diseases which affect wild animals is not uncommon in zoos, national parks and sanctuaries.

(b) The Indian Veterinary Research Institute is reported to have conducted a survey of a few zoos, national parks and sanctuaries but this does not cover the whole country.

(c) The above mentioned survey report has not been submitted to Government so far.

Target set under the IRDP

4703. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the families covered by the targets set under Integrated

Rural Development Programme in all the development Blocks of Almora and Pithoragarh Districts of Uttar Pradesh were benefited by the programme in 1981-82;

(b) if not, the names of the Development Blocks which could not achieve the targets and the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of families, blockwise, selected under IRDP for 1982-83, in these districts; and

(d) the action taken to ensure achievement of the targets ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BALESHWAR RAM): (a) The target under the IRD Programme is to provide assistance, on average, to 500 families in a block in a year. According to available information, against a target of 8400, the number of families actually assisted in Almora district in 1981-82 was 3917; in Pithoragarh district, the number of families assisted was 5499 against a target of 6600.

(b) and (c). Block-wise information is not monitored by the Ministry. Inadequate infrastructure support, insufficient institutional finance and difficulties in reaching rural families in a sparsely populated terrain are among the reasons for not achieving the targets fully.

(d). Efforts are being made to monitor the implementation of the programme more closely and the district and block level administration is being strengthened to improve performance.