

II. FISHERIES

- (i) Utilisation of saline soils for grow out culture of finfish and shellfish species with record production of 3.5 tonnes/ha./year of milkfish
- (ii) Formulation of management strategies and package of practices for developing medium and small size reservoirs with record production of 220 kg/ha./year for a small reservoir.
- (iii) Standardisation of pond culture technology for major carp and exotic carp and also diversification of candidate species with introduction of cat fishes especially magur in the culture system

[English]

Elephant and Deer Population

590 SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN
Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the elephant and deer population in the country. State-wise.

(b) whether incidents of poaching/killed of elephants and deer are still being reported from various States particularly Kerala;

(c) the number of elephants and deer killed during the past three years;

(d) whether the ban on sale of ivory is not being effectively implemented, and

(e) if so, the steps taken to ensure deterrent punishment to offenders in cases of elephant killings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) No systematic census of wild elephants in all the states was regularly carried out in the past. However, in 1985 the Asian Elephant specialist Group attempted a broad range wise estimate of elephant population in India. According to Asian Elephant Specialist Group the population of elephants in 1985 was between 16,560 and 21,361 in India. Sukumar in 1989 estimated the Indian Elephant population to be between 17,635 to 24,090. The estimate of elephant population done by Government of India in 1993 is between 22,796 and 28,346. State-wise estimated population in 1993 is given in the enclosed statement-I. State-wise population of all 9 species of deer which occur in the country are not being maintained.

(b) and (c). Yes, there has been reports of occasional poaching of wild elephants for their tusks and also of deer, yet there has not been any decline in the population of wild elephants or majority of deer species as indicated by the studies. The number of

elephants reported to have been killed during the past three years by poaching is given in the enclosed statement-II

(d) and (e) The ban on sale of ivory is being effectively implemented in the country. The elephant has been placed in Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 under which it has been provided with the maximum possible protection by law. The trade in ivory has been totally banned to discourage poaching of the elephants for its tusk. This is also included in the Appendix I of Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna which prohibits international trade of ivory. Offenders are liable to punishment with imprisonment for a term which shall be not less than one year but may extend to 6 years and also with fine which shall not be less than five thousand rupees. For a subsequent offence of this nature the term of imprisonment would be from two years upto six years and the minimum fine would be Rs. 10,000. Government of India has launched Project Elephant in 1991 to provide impetus to the Conservation of wild elephants in India. Assistance is also being provided to the States to strengthen their protection and communication infrastructure.

STATEMENT-I

Estimated Population of Wild Elephants in different States in 1993

State	Minimum	Maximum
1 Andhra Pradesh	46	46
2 Arunachal Pradesh	2000	3000
3 Assam	5000	6000
4 Bihar	500	600
5 Karnataka	5000	6000
6 Kerala	3000	4000
7 Meghalaya	2500	3000
8 Orissa	1500	2000
9 Tamil Nadu	2300	2500
10 Uttar Pradesh	750	1000
11 West Bengal	200	300
	22796	28346

STATEMENT-II

Reported Deaths of Elephants Killed by Poachers as per Figure Available

S No	State	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	1	1	Nil
2	Assam	4	3	6
3	Bihar	Nil	Nil	1

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Karnataka	19	25	N.A.
5.	Kerala	6	3	3
6.	Meghalaya	1	1	9
7.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	8*
8.	Orissa	4	5	N.A.
9.	Tamil Nadu	2	4	N.A.
10.	West Bengal	2*	3*	4*
		39	45	31

*Calendar Year

Introduction of Trains

591. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce some long distance passenger trains from Kharagpur, Asansol, New Jalpaiguri and Patna; and

(b) if so, by when and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Introduction of long distance passenger trains including those from Kharagpur, Asansol, New Jalpaiguri and Patna is a continuous process and is subject to operational feasibility, traffic justification and resource availability.

Frequency of Rajdhani Express

592. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to increase the frequency of Bhubaneswar Rajdhani Express and to provide its stoppage at Kharagpur.

(b) whether there is also a proposal to hand over the train to South Eastern Railway.

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) There are no such proposals at present

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Operational and resource constraints

Committee on DPEA

593. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee formed to look into Drugs Prices Equalisation Accounts is empowered to look into

the cases where no amounts were determined before 1991;

(b) if so, whether any notification in this regard has been issued empowering the Committee to look into the cases where the amounts were not determined in 1990;

(c) whether any demand notices were issued after the cessation of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1979; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SISRAM OLA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir Demand notices amounting to Rs. 309.00 crores, assessed on tentative basis, have been issued in 131 cases after the replacement of the Drug (Prices Control) Order 1979 by DPCO 1987 which protected the liabilities accrued during the period of DPCO, 1979.

Eviction Operation

594. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any eviction operation was proposed around Maibang station of Lumding-Badarpur section of North Frontier Railway during the last three years.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of such proposal including the status of the land in question especially if the said land was transferred to the Railways by any competent authority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Eviction proceedings were made against encroachers who were unauthorisedly occupying Railway land at Maibang

(c) In Dec'93, an eviction proposal was made to evict 244 encroachers who were unauthorisedly occupying Railway land at the Quarry Siding at Maibang. However, physical eviction was not carried out on the advice of the State Government. The land in question belongs to the Railways.

[Translation]

Expenses on Habeebganj Railway Station

595. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total estimated layout for the construction of Habeebganj Railway Station of Bhopal and the total expenditure incurred thereon upto 30.3.1996;