

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6389

ANSWERED ON:08.05.2000

LIONS POPULATION

DALPAT SINGH PARASTE;DILEEP SANGHANI;GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAV;MADHAVRAO SCINDIA;PUSHPDAN SHAMBHUDAN
GADHAVI;SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE

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

- (a) the States where lions are found and the comparative population figures of lions, tigers and wild cats of different species, sanctuary-wise;
- (b) whether some lions have been brought from abroad and some lions or Gujarat shifted to Madhya Pradesh;
- (c) if so, whether atleast 89 Gir lions and their cubs were killed during the last three years;
- (d) if so, the main reasons thereof; and
- (e) the amount spent and the steps being taken by the Union Government to conserve lions population during the last three years, sanctuary-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI)

- (a) Asiatic Lion is found only in the State of Gujarat in Gir Forests, where its population was 304 at the time of last census conducted during 1995. Details of population figures of tiger and leopard are given in the Annexure I and II.
- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) No Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) The Gir National Park/Sanctuary is a prestigious project for the Gujarat Government and they have provided significant finances for it. Following budget provisions have been made by the Gujarat Government during the last three years.

Major Head 1997-98 98-99 Upto 11/99 1999-2000
Budget Expdt. Budget Expdt. Budget Expdt.

2406-F&WL Non Plan 434.10 434.15 527.66 484.29 538.96 127.73
2406-F&WL Plan 106.61 109.91 67.04 63.73 81.71 37.52

Details of financial assistance provided by the Central Government under the centrally sponsored scheme 'Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries' to Gir National Park/ Sanctuary in Gujarat during last three years for the conservation of lion is given below:

Year Rs. In lakhs

1996-97 21.00
1997-98 5.05
1998-99 5.00

Steps taken by Government to conserve lion population are:

1. Steps have been taken to improve the bio-productivity potential of the are by implementing soil and moisture conservation works, improvement of grass reserves, eradication of unwanted growth etc.

2. Check posts have been established at sensitive points all along the periphery to prevent illegal activities.
3. Field staff has been provided with arms and ammunitions and vehicles for patrolling.
4. Wireless stations have been set up for better communication and response.
5. Eco-development works have been taken up in the revenue villages, forest settlement villages and maldhari nesses for improving the village economy in order to reduce biotic pressure on the protected area.
6. Nature education and awareness camps are held to create awareness among the masses.
7. Cattle immunisation camps are organised to prevnt disease transfer to wild herbivores.
8. Fire lines are prepared to minimise damage to the habitat by fire.
9. Habitat of lion meta populations around Gir is also being improved as a result of which population of lion has increased from 284 in 1990 to 304 in 1995.

ANNEXURE I

ANNEXURE IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 6389 FOR 8.5.2000 REGARDING LIONS POPULATION

POPULATION OF LEOPARDS IN THE COUNTRY AS REPORTED BY THE STATES

S.No. Name of State 1984 1989 1993 1997

1. ANDHRA PRADESH - 301 152 138
2. ARUNACHAL PRADESH 21 121 98 N.R.
3. ASSAM 123 123 246 N.A.
4. BIHAR 113 134 203 N.A.
5. GUJARAT 498 702 772 832
6. HARYANA 10 19 25 N.r.
- 7 HIMACHAL PRADESH 199 199 821 N.R.
8. JAMMU & KASHMIR 4 4 - N.R.
9. KARNATAKA 238 283 455 N.R.
10. KERALA - 27 16 N.R
11. MADHYA PRADESH 1322 2036 1700 1851
12. MANIPUR 7 - - N.R.
13. MAHARASHTRA 380 580 417 431
14. MIZORAM 6 38 49 28
15. NAGALAND 72 72 - N.R.
16. ORISSA 266 279 378 422
17. RAJASTHAN 270 461 475 474
18. SIKKIM - 1 - N.R.
19. TRIPURA 27 37 18 N.R.
20. TAMIL NADU 189 119 139 110
21. UTTAR PRADESH 880 1095 711 1412
22. WEST BENGAL 112 108 108 N.A.
23. DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI - 10 15 16
24. GOA DAMAN & DIU 10 18 31 25

TOTAL 4747 6767 8828 5738

ANNEXURE II

ANNEXURE IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 6389 FOR 8.5.2000
REGARDING LIONS POPULATION

POPULATION OF TIGERS IN THE COUNTRY AS REPORTED BY THE STATES

S.No. Name of the State 1972 1979 1984 1989 1993 1997

1. TAMIL NADU	33	65	97	95	97	62
2. MAHARASHTRA	160	174	301	417	276	257
3. WEST BENGAL	73	296	352	353	335	361
4. KARNATAKA	102	156	202	257	305	350
5. BIHAR	85	110	138	157	137	103
6. ASSAM	147	300	376	376	325	458
7. RAJASTHAN	74	79	96	99	64	58
8. MADHYA PRADESH	457	529	786	985	912	927
9. UTTAR PRADESH	262	487	698	735	465	475
10. ANDHRA PRADESH	35	148	164	235	197	171
11. MIZORAM	-	65	33	18	28	12
12. GUJARAT	8	7	9	9	5	1
13. GOA DAMAN & DIU	-	-	-	2	3	6
14. ORISSA	142	173	202	243	226	194
TOTAL	1578	2589	3454	3981	3375	3435
15. KERALA	60	134	89	45	57	N.R.
16. MEGHALAYA	32	35	125	34	53	N.R.
17. MANIPUR	1	10	6	31	-	N.R.
18. TRIPURA	7	6	5	-	-	N.R.
19. NAGALAND	80	102	104	104	83	N.R.
20. ARUNACHAL PRADESH	69	139	219	135	180	N.R.
21. SIKKIM	-	-	2	4	2	N.R.
22. HARYANA	-	-	1	-	-	N.R.
TOTAL	249	426	551	353	375	N.R.

N.R. Not reported by States