

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2302  
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2000  
SMUGGLING OF BUTTERFLIES  
NIVEDITA MANE

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

- (a) whether the Government have conducted any enquiry into the cases of smuggling of butterflies in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ; and
- (c) the action being taken in this regard ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R.BAALU)

(a),(b) & (c): The Wildlife protection staff in the country have made several seizures in connection with illegal trade of butterflies in the country. The details are given in the Annexure. Action against the offenders is taken as per the provisions of Wildlife (Protection ) Act, 1972/ Customs Act, 1962.

ANNEXURE. DETAILS OF IMPORTANT CASES OF SEIZURES OF BUTTERFLIES.

Sl. No.	Year	Item Seized	Place	Quantity	Cases referred to
1.	1992	Butterflies	Calcutta	155nos.	Customs for adjudication
2.	1994	Butterflies and moths	Delhi	14800 nos.	Case handed over to MEA
3.	1995	Butterflies	Calcutta	197nos.	Customs for adjudication
4.	1995	Butterflies	Calcutta	70nos.	Customs for adjudication
5.	1996	Butterflies	Calcutta	112 nos.	Customs for adjudication
6.	1996	Butterflies	Calcutta	57 nos.	Customs for adjudication
7.	1996	Butterflies and beetles	Darjeeling	3100nos	Punished under Wildlife (Protection) Act,1972 with one month simple imprisonment and fine of Rs. 2000/-.
8.	1996	Butterflies	Calcutta	52 nos.	Customs for adjudication
9.	1996	Butterflies	Calcutta	128 nos.	Customs for adjudication
10.	1996.	Butterflies Plaque	Guwahati/Calcutta	42.nos.	Pending in Guwahati High Court (Shillong Bench) .
11.	1996.	Butterfly Ashtray	Calcutta	1no.	-do-
12.	1996	Butterfly Mat	Calcutta	1 no.	-do-
13.	1998	Butterfly	Calcutta	7 no.	-
14.	1999	Butterfly	Calcutta	1.970 Kg.	Customs for adjudication

