

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5249  
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2001  
CONFERENCE ON PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE  
RUPCHAND MURMU;SUNIL KHAN;SWADESH CHAKRABORTTY

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

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- (a) whether a conference of State Forest Ministers held in Coimbatore in January, 2000;
- (b) if so, the details of recommendations /decisions taken thereon;
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (d) the time by which these recommendations are likely to be implemented to protect the Wildlife?

**Answer**

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The conference unanimously adopted the `Coimbatore Charter` covering afforestation, joint forest management, forest fire control, drought prone areas, strengthening of infrastructure, wildlife conservation, environmental laws, solid waste management, environmental education and awareness, river cleaning programme and international issues.

(c)&(d)The following resolutions adopted in the `Coimbatore Charter` pertained to wildlife conservation:

(i) The ban on recruitment of forestry personnel shall be lifted and the vacancies filled up immediately on the lines of Police Department. The field formations shall be reorganized into viable units and be provided with adequate mobility, fire arms and effective communication network

(ii) An effective mechanism for intelligence gathering and data base of habitual offenders should be developed for preventing wildlife crimes.

(iii) Adequate expertise shall be developed for prosecuting offenders and training be organized for undertaking investigations.

(iv) Steps shall be taken immediately for designating special courts for wildlife offences.

(v) Create effective enforcement infrastructure both within protected areas and outside protected area to prevent poaching.

(vi) Existing provisions for payment of compensation in the cases of deaths due to wild animals were emphasized, with the objective of ensuring compliance by the State/Union Territories Governments.

(vii) An appropriate insurance scheme for compensating damage to agricultural crops falling within five kilometers of national parks and sanctuaries.

Implementation of the recommendations is the responsibility of State Government. Government of India provides financial and technical assistance for infrastructure, weapons, communication equipments, vehicles and for other activities related with conservation of wild animals and their habitats.