

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:151
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2000
POACHING OF WILDLIFE
CHANDRAKANT BHAURAO KHAIRE;KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU

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

- (a) whether smuggling of tiger, leopard and other protected animals` skins and parts of their body, worth crores of rupees, takes place annually;
- (b) if so, the estimated value of tiger, leopard and other animals` skins and parts of their body smuggled out of the country annually;
- (c) the estimated value of the skins and parts of body of such animals seized in various parts of the country during the last one year;
- (d) the areas identified by the Government where poaching of wildlife continues unabated despite various measures taken by the Government;
- (e) the reasons therefor;
- (f) the measures being contemplated by the Government to deal with the wildlife related crimes; (g) whether Government have considered the question of setting up a specialised investigating agency to deal with the wildlife related crimes; and (h) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this direction?

Answer

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

(a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g) & (h) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. STATEMENT IN RESPECT TO PART:

(g) & (h) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 151 FOR 6.3.2000 REGARDING POACHING OF WILDLIFE.

(a), (b) & (c) Details of skins and parts of wild animals seized in various states in the last one year is at Annexure to this statement. Of these, 11 seizures were made by the Customs Authorities. The value of articles covered by these seizures, which were intended for illegal export, comes to approximately Rs.20 lakhs.

(d) Cases of poaching have been detected both inside and outside the protected areas. However, the incidences of poaching are higher outside the protected areas due to inadequate enforcement infrastructure.

(e) The lucrative prices offered for wildlife products outside India is the main incentive for poaching and illegal trade in wildlife products.

(f) The measures contemplated by the Government to deal with wildlife related crimes include: Setting up of a Special Coordination and Enforcement Committee under the chairmanship of Secretary (Environment & Forests), Government of India. Similar Committees have been established at State level and district level in various States. Providing assistance to state Governments for strengthening the infrastructure through involvement of Armed Squads and Strike Forces drawn out of paramilitary forces and State armed constabulary. Strengthening the infrastructure under the Central Government and to ensure its presence in all sensitive areas. Authorise Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to apprehend offenders and launch prosecution in wildlife offences. Periodic meetings with State Governments for effective monitoring of protection measures undertaken.

(g) & (h) A proposal is under consideration in the Ministry for setting up of a special mechanism for wildlife trade prevention and control to deal with the poaching and illegal trade in wildlife and its products.

ANNEXURE IN RESPECT OF STATEMENT OF LOK SABHA STARRED
QUESTION NO. 151 FOR 6.3.2000 REGARDING POACHING OF
WILDLIFE

S.No	Animal parts	& State	Quantity
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1.	Cobra skin	Maharashtra	45 nos.
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2.	Lizard skin	Maharashtra	11000 nos.
3.	Grey Jungle Fowl feathers	West Bengal	0.89 kg.
4.	Peacock feathers	West Bengal	4.75 kg.
5.	Mongoose hair`	West Bengal	4.5 kg.
6.	Deer horns Tamil Nadu 7.6 MTs	West Bengal & (approx.)	
7	Porcupine quills	West Bengal	100 nos.
8.	Birds of prey - legs	West Bengal	3 nos.
9.	Crocodile skin	West Bengal	1 no.
10.	Deer skin	West Bengal	6 nos.
11.	Monitor Lizard skin	West Bengal	1 no.
12.	Pangolin skin	Assam	3 nos.
13.	Python skin	Assam	2 nos.
14.	Butterflies	West Bengal	1.97 kgs.
15.	Live birds	West Bengal	13 nos.
16.	Live birds	Delhi	159 nos.
17.	Sambar & Cheetal buttons	Delhi	650 nos.
18.	Shahtoosh shawls	Delhi	132 nos.
19.	Black buck skin	Uttar Pradesh	121 nos.
20.	Tiger skin	Andhra Pradesh	2 nos.
21.	Tiger skin	Delhi	1 no.
22.	Tiger skin	Madhya Pradesh	10 nos.
23.	Tiger skin	Maharashtra	4 nos.
24.	Tiger skin	Tamil Nadu	1 no.
25.	Tiger skin	Uttar Pradesh	18 nos.
26.	Tiger skin	West Bengal	7 nos.
27.	Tiger bone	Assam	15 kgs.
28.	Tiger bone	Madhya Pradesh	83 kgs.
29.	Tiger bone	Maharashtra	2.5 kgs.
30.	Tiger bone	Uttar Pradesh	1.52 kgs.
31.	Tiger nails	Tamil Nadu	5 nos.
32.	Tiger nails	Uttar Pradesh	132 nos.
33.	Panther skin	Madhya Pradesh	15 nos.
34.	Panther skin	Maharashtra	2 nos.
35.	Panther skin	Rajasthan	4 nos.
36.	Panther skin	Tamil Nadu	1 no.
37.	Panther skin	Uttar Pradesh	126 nos.
38.	Panther nails	Uttar Pradesh	18000 nos.