

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:299
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2003
SMUGGLING OF CROCODILES
BOLLA BULLIRAMIAH

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

(a) whether poachers from Myanmar, Indonesia and Thailand have been straying into India waters at Andaman and Nicobar islands and smuggling out crocodiles and other species; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken to check such activities?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE)

(a) & (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) AND (b) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 299
REPLY ON 22.12.2003 REGARDING SMUGGLING OF CROCODILES.

(a) & (b) Vessels from Myanmar, Indonesia, Thailand and other neighbouring countries do visit the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and sometimes manage to take marine products. Occasional cutting of trees is also resorted to by them for meeting their camping requirement and for repairing/construction of boats. The action taken to check such activities includes:

1. Regular patrolling by Forest Department of the Union Territory.
2. Patrolling by Coast Guards and Indian Navy in deep sea.
3. Camps by Police in far flung islands.
4. Technical and financial assistance to Andaman and Nicobar administration by the Government of India for protection of wildlife in Protected Areas.