

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4377
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2000
PROMOTION OF FORESTS AND WILDLIFE
MADHAVRAO SCINDIA

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

- (a) whether various States in the North-East have sought special aid for reinforcing steps for conservation and promotion of forests and wildlife;
- (b) if so, the details of aid sought by each State; and
- (c) the extent to which forest cover and wildlife population have been depleted especially Rhinos in these States during the last five Years?

Answer

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

(a) and (b) Ministry of Environment and Forests has earmarked an amount of Rs.85 crores for North-Eastern States during the year 2000-2001 for conservation and promotion of forests and wildlife etc.

(c) The details of forest cover and extent of depletion is given in the enclosed statement-I. Amongst the North East States, one horned Rhino is found in the State of Assam only and the census figure of 1999 shows an increase in its population over the previous census of 1995. The details are given in the enclosed statement – II.

Statement I

Details of forest cover and the extent of its depletion

State Forest Cover (sq.km)
 1993-95Assessment 1995-98Assessment

Arunachal Pradesh	68602	68847
Assam	23824	23688
Manipur	17418	17384
Meghalaya	15657	15633
Mizoram	18775	18338
Nagaland	14221	14164
Tripura	5546	5745
Total	164043	163799

Total loss in forest area (-) 244 Sq. kms.

Source – State of Forest Report - FSI

Statement II

Census Figures of Rhino in Assam

National Parks/Sanctuaries 1995 1998/1999

Kaziranga	1250	1550
Manas	80	12
Pobitora	60	74
Orang	100	46
Other Pockets	40	-
Total	1530	1684

Percentage of increase – 1.54%