

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1222

ANSWERED ON:31.07.2000

CONSERVATION OF BIG CATS

DAGGUBATI RAMANAIDU;MADHAVRAO SCINDIA;RENUKA CHOWDHURY;SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE

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

- (a) whether any enumeration or census in respect of Big Cats such as tigers, lions and panthers in different reserves and sanctuaries had lately been undertaken;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any decline in their population has been noticed;
- (d) if so, the extent thereof indicating the head count in respect of each species; and
- (e) the steps proposed to be taken to effectively conserve and promote wildlife especially the Big Cats ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI BABULAL MARANDI)

- (a) The census with respect to Tigers and Panthers was last undertaken in 1997 and in case of Lions in 1995.
- (b) The Population of Lions as per 1995 Census is 304. The Population of Tigers and Panthers in different States are in Annexure-I .
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Question does not arise.
- (e) The Steps taken to effectively conserve and promote wild- life specially the Tigers are in Annexure- II.

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE IN RESPECT OF PART (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NUMBER 1222 FOR 31.07.2000 REGARDING CONSERVATION OF BIG CATS.

S.No Name of States
Leopards Tigers

	1993	1997	1993	1997		
1	TAMIL NADU	138	110	97	62	
2.	MAHARASHTRA	417	431	276	257	
3.	WEST BENGAL	108	N.R	335	361	
4.	KARNATAKA	455	N.R	305	350	
5.	BIHAR	203	N.R	137	103	
6.	ASSAM		246	N.R	325	458
7	RAJASTHAN.		475	474	64	58
8.	MADHYA PRADESH		1700	1851	912	927

9.	UTTAR PRADESH	71	1412	465	475
10.	ANDHRA PRADESH.	152	138	197	171
11.	MIZORAM	49	28	28	12
12.	GUJARAT.	772	832	5	1
13.	GOA DAMAN & DIU	31	25	3	6
14	ORISSA	378	422	226	194
	TOTAL		3375	3435	
15	KERALA	16	N.R	57	N.R
16.	MEGHALAYA	N.R	N.R	53	N.R
17	TRIPURA	18	N.R	N.R	N.R
18.	NAGALAND		N.R	83	N.R
19.	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	98	N.R	180	N.R
20.	SIKKIM		N.R	2	N.R
21.	HARYANA.	25	N.R		
22..	HIMACHAL PRADESH	821	N.R		
23.	DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI	15	15		
	TOTAL	6828	5738	375	

N.R: Not Reported by States.

ANNEXURE II

ANNEXURE IN RESPECT OF PART (e) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NUMBER 12231 OF 2000 REGARDING CONSERVATION OF BIG CATS.

STEPS TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

NATIONAL LEVEL

1. Setting up of a National Coordination Committee to control poaching and illegal trade in wildlife with enforcement agencies like customs, Revenue Intelligence, Indo-Tibetan Border Police, Border Security Force, Central Reserves Police, Coast Guards, State Police, Deputy Director, Wildlife Preservation & Scientific Organisation like Zoological and Botanical Survey of India.
2. Training Programs and Workshops have been organised to sensitize the above departments to be proactive in control of trade and smuggling of wildlife products.
3. A special co-ordination committee with Secretary (E&F), Special Secretary (Home), Director, CBI and representative of the Chairman, central Board of Excise & Customs has been created to ensure better co-ordination in the efforts to curb smuggling of wildlife products.
4. Central assistance is being provided to State Governments to strengthen the protection infrastructure including armed squads, vehicles, communication network and co-ordination between the Park Managers.
5. Schemes for awards and rewards for outstanding performance and acts of valor has been introduced to encourage detection and reporting.
6. The State Governments have been advised to strengthen vigilance and intensify patrolling.
7. Launching of public awareness programme to involve Non- Governmental Organisations and others for supporting the Government in its efforts towards wildlife conservation.
8. Supporting programmers of Institutions and NGOs in exploring tiger-trade routes and developing a forensic identification reference Manual for tiger parts and products.
9. Funds are being provided to the States Governments for eco- development of the areas to reduce the biotic pressure thereon.
10. Site specific special force in Project Tiger Areas.
11. Special Strike Force all over the Country to control Trade.
12. Creation of wildlife trade control bureau.

INTERNATIONAL LEVEL :

1. Initiated creation of a Forum of Tiger Range Countries, i.e Global Forum for addressing international issues related of tiger conservation.
2. To control transboundary trade and effect mutual cooperation in tiger conservation:-

(i) A protocol has been signed with People's Republic of China.

(ii) An MOU with his Majesty's Government of Nepal has been signed.

(iii) Dialogue with Bangladesh has been initiated.

3. Several resolutions at CITES to check illegal trade in Tiger parts and products have been adopted at India's initiative.

4. The Millennium Tiger Conference was held in March, 1999. The conference declaration suggested several action for conservation of tiger both at national and International level.