

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1580
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2005
SEIZURE OF SKINS OF BANNED WILD ANIMALS
Budholiya Shri Rajnarayan;Singh Shri Lakshman

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

- (a) whether a huge contraband of animal skins, including those of tigers and leopards worth Rs. 5 crores has been seized in Delhi recently as reported in the Hindu dated February 2, 2005;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action initiated by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) the steps proposed / to be proposed to curb such illegal activities and to protect the animals in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

- (a) & (b) As reported by Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi on 31st January, 2005 Delhi Police has seized animal skins and other articles that includes two tiger skins and thirty nine leopard skins.
- (c) Action as per law has been initiated by Government of Delhi.
- (d) For conservation of wild animals following steps have been taken -
- The endangered animals have been included in the Schedule ? of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and get maximum protection.
 - States Governments have notified important habitats of wild animals as National Parks and Sanctuaries. Government of India provides technical and financial assistance for management and development of the Protected Areas.
 - Under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes financial assistance is provided for infrastructure, communication, supply of arms and ammunition for the Protected Areas.