

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:475

ANSWERED ON:28.04.2010

KILLING OF WILD ANIMALS

Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram;Rajendran Shri C.

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

- (a) whether a large number of wild animals were/are reportedly killed/being killed by poachers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the number of wild animals reported dead/killed during the last three years and the current year alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (c) the estimated value of the organs of the wild animals traded illegally during the said period;
- (d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken against the guilty persons;
- (e) whether the Government has any proposal to check the rise in crimes against wild animals through DNA tests;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the other remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a),(b),(c),(d),(e),(f) & (g) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a), (b), (c),(d), (e), (f) AND (g) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 475 REGARDING 'KILLING OF WILD ANIMALS' BY SHRI C. RAJENDRAN AND SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN DUE FOR REPLY ON 28TH APRIL 2010.

(a)& (b) There are reports of killing of wild animals due to demand for wildlife and their products, man-animal conflicts and consumption as food. The details of the important animals like tigers, lions, elephants and rhinos reported dead/killed by the poachers in the country during the last three years are at Annexure.

(c) Trading of wildlife and its derivatives is carried out in a clandestine manner and therefore no estimated value can be assigned to the organs of the wild animals.

(d) Offenders of wildlife crimes are prosecuted as per the provisions of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and the relevant laws.

(e) & (f) DNA tests are conducted in wildlife crime cases whenever necessary.

(g) The Government of India has taken the following measures to conserve and protect wildlife in the country:

1. Threatened species of wildlife are included in the Schedules of the Wildlife (Protection), Act, 1972, thereby according them the highest degree of protection.
2. A network of Protected Areas has been established to conserve wildlife and their habitats including rare animals.
3. Wildlife Crime Control Bureau has been set up to check illegal trade in wildlife and its products.
4. Financial and technical assistance is extended to the State/UT Governments under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, namely, 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' for providing better protection and conservation of wildlife.
5. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme - 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats', a new component has been added for initiating 'Recovery Programme for critically endangered species and their habitats' during the 11th Five Year plan period.
6. A Special Consultative Committee comprising various intelligence, security and enforcement agencies has been formed.
7. Checks are conducted at the exit points by various agencies to prevent trafficking of wildlife articles.
8. The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 has been amended from time to time and made more stringent against wildlife related offences.
9. Training courses are conducted for various enforcement agencies like Customs, Central Police Forces etc for better control of illegal wildlife trade.