GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:626 ANSWERED ON:28.07.2010 REGIONAL OFFICES FOR PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE Choudhary Shri Harish;Laguri Shri Yashbant Narayan Singh

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

(a) the number of regional offices in the country to protect wildlife and to check crime against wildlife;

(b) the expenditure incurred on these regional offices during the last three years;

(c) the number of people working in these regional offices, category-wise and region-wise;

(d) the regional office-wise number of cases registered alongwith the number of people penalized in such cases so far; and

(e) the reaction of the Government on the progress made by these regional offices alongwith the remedial steps taken in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau has five regional offices located at New Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai and Jabalpur respectively.

(b) The detailed statement showing the region-wise expenditure incurred in various Regional Offices is at Annexure-I.

(c) The detailed list of staff working in various Regional Offices is at Annexure-II

(d) Cases detected by Regional Offices of Wildlife Crime Control Bureau are handed over to the Customs Department or the State Forest Department for prosecution under the Customs Act 1961 or the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972 as the case may be respectively. The cases that are exclusively registered and prosecuted by the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau are at Annexure-III.

(e) Considering the functional profile of the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau certain measurable outcomes have been determined for the organization for monitoring on quarterly basis, like number of detections; interceptions and seizures; joint operations and interstate/agency operations undertaken, with other agencies and number of cases committed to courts, under trial and convictions. During the year 2009-10, the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau has conducted 17578 inspections at the exit points, undertook 174 joint operations and was instrumental in detecting 205 violations of Wildlife (Protection) Act/CITES/EXIM Policy. It has also conducted 60 training programmes and 384 coordination meetings with various agencies.