

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:401
ANSWERED ON:25.08.2010
DEER POPULATION
Dashmuni Deepa

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

- (a) whether any norms have been prescribed for supporting deer population, per hectare;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a number of deers have been kept in a small enclosures in the Delhi Zoological Park in violation of the prescribed norms;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (e) the corrective measures taken in this regard; and
- (f) the funds allocated and the progress made in renovation of the Delhi Zoological Park?

Answer

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a),(b),(c),(d),(e)&(f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO 401 REGARDING 'DEER POPULATION' BY SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI DUE FOR REPLY ON 25.08.2010.

(a)&(b) No specific norms have been prescribed under the Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009 for supporting deer population per hectare. However,, detailed guidelines issued by the Central Zoo Authority prescribe size for outdoor open enclosures for some deer species viz. Brow antlered deer, Hangul and Swamp deer as 1500 square meters per pair.

(c)&(d) Deer are kept in large, open and naturalistic enclosures in the Delhi Zoological Park. However, over a period of time, deer being a prolific breeder, their number has increased.

(e) With a view to control the population of deer various measures castrations, vasectomy, separation of male from females, shifting to Asola Wildlife Sanctuary, and transfer of deer to other Zoos under animal exchange programme.

(f) The Ministry has allocated Rs 830.05 lakhs (Rs 60.00 lakhs under Plan and Rs 770.05 lakhs under Non Plan) to Delhi Zoological Park (National Zoological Park, New Delhi) during the year 2009-10 on account of salary of the staff, feed for animals, construction/renovation of animal enclosures, animal sheds, footpaths, boundary walls and development of visitors' facilities viz. toilets, drinking water points and sitting places etc..