

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:402
ANSWERED ON:25.08.2010
PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE ANIMALS
Saroj Shri Tufani;Singh Shri Ravneet

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken or proposes to take financial and technical assistance from international wildlife experts/bodies for protection, preservation and breeding of wildlife animals such as tigers, lions, elephants, etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to further strengthen the wildlife laws for prevention of poaching of wild animals; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a), (b), (c) & (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 402 REGARDING 'PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE ANIMALS' BY SHRI RAVNEET SINGH AND SHRI TUFANI SAROJ DUE FOR REPLY ON 25.08.2010

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has been taking financial and technical assistance from international experts/ bodies from time to time. Details of some important wildlife conservation programmes in which assistance had been taken by the Government are placed at Annexure.

(c) & (d) The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, has been amended from time to time and made more stringent against wildlife related offences. To further strengthen the wildlife laws for prevention of poaching of wild animals, the Ministry has contemplated necessary amendments in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to increase the penalties for poaching of wild animals listed in the schedules of the Act.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 402 REGARDING 'PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE ANIMALS' BY SHRI RAVNEET SINGH AND SHRI TUFANI SAROJ DUE FOR REPLY ON 25.08.2010

Details of important cases where assistance had been taken by the Government from international wildlife experts/bodies

1. The World Wide Fund-International had been associated with Tiger Conservation during its initial years in 1970's.
2. The FAO-UNDP supported crocodile breeding and research programme had been implemented in 1970's and 80's, which aimed at rehabilitating crocodilian species into the wild.
3. IUCN-Rhino Specialist Group has developed Rhino-vision 2010 for Rhino conservation.
4. The Royal Society of Protection of Birds (RSPB), Peregrine Foundation and BirdLife International have been associated in the Vulture Conservation Programme.
5. World Pheasant Association and their experts are working with Himachal Pradesh Forest Department in breeding and conservation of Western Tragopan.
6. A group of international experts met at Gajner, Rajasthan to work out a framework for reintroduction of Cheetah in India.
7. Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun in association with Smithsonian Institution, USA, is conducting capacity building programme for managers of Tiger Reserves for conservation of tigers.
8. The Government of India and the Government of Assam have entered into an MOU with the Durrell Conservation Trust and IUCN SSC Pigs, Peccaries & Hippos Specialist Group on Conservation of Pigmy Hogs in Manas & Nameri Protected Areas in Assam.
9. A UNESCO aided project titled ' World Heritage Biodiversity programme for India: Building Partnerships to support UNESCO's World Heritage Programme' is underway in 4 World Heritage Sites in India, viz, Kaziranga National Parks, Manas National Park, Keoladeo National Park & Nanda Devi National Park.
10. A UNDP assisted project titled 'Natural Resource Conservation Outside Protected Areas' is being implemented.
11. A UNDP-GOI-GEF assisted project titled 'Mainstreaming Coastal and Marine Biodiversity into production sectors in the Godavari River Estuary' is being implemented.

