

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:552

ANSWERED ON:13.08.2012

LOSS OF LIVES OF WILD ANIMALS

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

- (a) Whether there has been huge loss of lives of wild animals due to floods and various reasons in certain parts of the country including Kaziranga National Park in Assam;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated any action plan in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government to prevent such losses in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) The management of wild animals and protected areas for wildlife in the states is looked after by the concerned State Government. However, as per the reports received in the Ministry as on 07.08.2012, total 631 animal deaths have occurred in Kaziranga National Park due to high flood during June-July 2012, the details of which are as follows:

Sl. No. Species Total

1	Rhino	19
2	Elephant	1
3	Swamp deer	11
4	Buffallo	4
5	Hog deer	529
6	Sambar	22
7	Wild boar	34
8	Porcupine	5
9	Hog badger	3
10	Python	2
11	Fox	1
		631

No such reports have been received in the Ministry from any other part of the country.

Flood is a recurring natural phenomenon in Kaziranga National Park which is responsible for creation of a variety of habitats suitable for different species. The current flood forced much more water than the ecological requirement of the floodplains of the Park, resulting in mortality of wild animals as well as damage to physical infrastructure like, roads, anti-poaching camps, artificial high grounds etc. During similar high floods of 1988 and 1998, mortality of 1203 and 652 animals was recorded respectively.

The measures necessary for appropriate management of wildlife protected areas are decided by the authorities in the concerned State Governments. The Ministry provides financial assistance to the State Governments for implementation of the management plans for such protected areas in accordance with the Annual Plans of Operation submitted by them under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of "Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats", "Project Tiger" and "Project Elephant".