GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:590 ANSWERED ON:13.08.2012 CHECK ON EXTINCTION OF SPECIES Pandey Shri Ravindra Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps to preserve species on the verge of extinction in the State of Jharkhand;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) the percentage of rare species got extinct and the percentage of species on the verge of extinction, State-wise and species-wise; and
- (d) the number of Tiger Projects started for protection of tigers in the country?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Protection is provided to threatened species of wildlife by including them under appropriate Schedules of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. In addition, the Ministry of Environment and Forests provides financial and technical assistance to State Governments under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of "Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats" which includes provision of financial assistance for taking up recovery programmes for saving critically endangered species and habitats. No such recovery programme has been taken up in the State of Jharkhand during last three years and during the current year, so far.

Govt. of India is supporting conservation of two species – Tiger and Vulture- in the State of Jharkhand, which have been categorized as endangered. Financial assistance is being provided to Palamau Tiger Reserve by the National Tiger Conservation Authority under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of "Project Tiger". Establishment of a Vulture Breeding Centre for ex-situ conservation of Indian Vulture (Gyps Indicus) in the State of Jharkhand has also been supported by the Central Zoo Authority. Government of India also provides financial assistance to the State Government of Jharkhand for protection and management of its wildlife protected areas under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of "Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats" (IDWH), "Project Tiger" and "Project Elephant". The details of financial assistance released to the State Government of Jharkhand during the last three years and the current financial year are as follows:

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Financial assistance released during the financial year (Rupees in lakhs)

2009-10 2010-11 2011-12 2012-13#

IDWH 80.267 63.64 64.2615 -

Project Tiger 117.1386 130.6160 156.3465 -

Project Elephant 80.00 80.00 105.87 59.51

Vulture breeding centre - 10.61 31.00 -
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- (c) The state-wise details of threatened species have not been compiled in the Ministry. However, as per information available in the IUCN Red List 2008, 1 animal species and 7 plant species have gone extinct in the country. As per the list of species available with the Zoological Survey of India, 184909 faunal species had been reported in India till 2010. 413 species including mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fishes, mollusks, and other invertebrates have been classified as endangered to different extent (Critically endangered: 51, Endangered: 105, Vulnerable: 257) as per IUCN Red List 2008.
- (d) The Government has so far notified 41 Tiger Reserves for protection of tigers in the country.