

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4471
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2013
PROTECTION OF ELEPHANTS
Vishwanath Shri Adagur H

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

- (a) the total number of elephants across the country as in December, 2012, State-wise;
- (b) whether a number of elephants are killed for ivory with the indirect help of the forest officials;
- (c) if so, the number of such cases which have been reported during the last three years and the current year; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to protect these elephants from hunters?

Answer

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

- (a) As per the last census (2007), the number of estimated population of elephants in the country are in the range of 27669-27719 (Average 27,694). The details, state wise, are given in Annexure.
- (b) (c) & (d) There have been no reports of killing of elephants for ivory with the indirect help of forest officials. Many initiatives have been taken by states such as forming committees at the village level for protection of elephants by involving local communities, watch tower and solar fencing for better protection and management of elephants.