

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6360

ANSWERED ON:06.05.2013

CHECK ON POACHING ACTIVITIES

Hazari Shri Maheshwar ;Saroj Smt. Sushila;Vardhan Shri Harsh;Verma Smt. Usha

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

(a) whether the Government has ordered for CBI inquiry to probe illegal hunting of Rhinos, Elephants and Tigers at large scale in Kajiranga National Park and other wildlife sanctuaries in North East Region of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the illegal smuggling of the wild animals; and

(d) the extent to which success has been achieved as a result thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) The State was advised by the Government of India for a CBI investigation. As requested by the State and subsequent notification by the Government of India, three separate regular cases relating to poaching of rhinos in the Districts of Karbi-Anglong and Nagaon of Assam have been registered in the CBI.

(c) & (d) The Government of India has taken several milestone initiatives for protection and conservation of wild animals including tiger, which are at Annexure-I. The country level tiger population, assessed once in every four years using the refined methodology, has shown an increasing trend with a population estimate of 1706, lower and upper limits being 1520 and 1909 respectively, in the recent assessment of 2010, as compared to the last country level assessment of 2006, with an estimate of 1411, lower and upper limits being 1165 and 1657 respectively.