

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1965  
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2013  
FUNDS FOR CONSERVATION OF WILDLIFE  
M.Thambidurai Dr.

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

- (a) whether international wildlife agencies have given financial grants for conservation and protection of wild animals like tigers, lions and elephants in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to make laws more stringent to stop poaching in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) No financial grants have been received from international agencies for conservation and protection of wild animals like tigers, lions and elephants in the country.

(c) & (d) The Central Government has proposed to amend the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to, inter alia, enhance the penalties for wildlife offences. The penalties have been proposed to be enhanced to a maximum of seven years of imprisonment and/or fine of upto rupees fifty lakhs depending on the category of the offence. Punishment in cases of second or subsequent offences has also been proposed to be enhanced.

The proposed amendment also envisages to regulate the international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants in accordance with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) by incorporation of certain provisions of in the Act. It has been proposed to introduce a new Chapter-V B for that purpose.

(e) The Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Bill 2013 has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha.