

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3281
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2009
CAECILIANS IN MANIPUR
Meinya Dr. Thokchom

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the earliest amphibian, the 'Caecilians' are found in the forests of Manipur and Nagaland;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken up any measure to protect and preserve such a rare animal; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a), (b), (c) & (d) Yes, Sir. Recently three new species of Caecilians have been reported in Manipur and Nagaland. As per the information available in the Ministry, it has increased the number of Caecilian species found in North East Region to seven. Most of these species occur within the Protected Areas. The species occurring within Protected Areas are protected under Section 29 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972.