

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4348
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2009
DEATH OF YAKS
Gandhi Smt. Maneka Sanjay

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

- (a) whether Yaks are being brought from high altitudes to tourist destinations like Kufri unmindful of the fact that the Yaks die within a year due to unsuitable climatic conditions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is a proposal to plan a ban on them in tourist areas that fall beneath 10,000-18,000 feet the altitude that is the Yak's natural habitat;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps Government is taking to protect these rare and endangered animal?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) As per the information received from the State Government, only domesticated Yaks are at Kufri for tourism and no wild Yaks are brought to Kufri for tourism.
- (c) & (d) There is no such proposal.
- (e) Wild Yaks (*Bos Grunniens*) are placed in Schedule-I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and therefore, providing them the highest degree of protection.