GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2324 ANSWERED ON:04.08.2015 Asiatic Lions Joshi Shri Chandra Prakash

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

- (a) whether the Gir Forest National Park in Gujarat has registered an increase in the number of Asiatic Lions and if so, the details thereof:
- (b) whether a number of lions have died due to excessive rain and flood recently and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any plans for transfer of lions from Gir National Park to Madhya Pradesh; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which the transfer is likely to be completed?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

- (a) Yes, Sir. The number of Asiatic Lion has increased from 411 in 2010 to 523 in 2015 in Gir Forest National Park and nearby habitats in Gujarat.
- (b) As informed by the State Government of Gujarat, ten lions have been reported as died due to excessive rain and flood recently in Bhavnagar and Amreli District. The details of the lion reported died is given in the Annexure.

(c)and(d) The matter of translocation of a few Asiatic lions to Madhya Pradesh from Gir National Park area was considered by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and the matter is sub-judice in the Supreme Court in the Review Petition no. 1032 of 2014, Wildlife Conservation Trust, Rajkot vrs. Union of India..