

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2389
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2015
Use of Wildlife for Cultural/Religious Practices
Shetti Shri Raju alias Devappa Anna

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to further clarify the term 'Culture and Religious Practice' to make it precise and check misinterpretation and if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;
- (b) whether the Government has any proposal to make a distinction between use of wildlife for 'Cultural and Religious Practices' and hunting and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a list, sanctioning cultural activities that warrant wildlife use, has been prepared and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether a list of animals, which can be killed or captured for Cultural and Religious reasons has been prepared and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has received representations from peoples' representatives and citizens for consideration of granting permission for capture of snakes during the festival of 'Nagpanchami'. This involves amendment to the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 which is underway. No final decision for use of wildlife for cultural and religious practices and for 'hunting' has been taken in the Ministry.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.
