

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1993
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2014
WILDLIFE PROTECTION ACT
Chaudhary Shri P.P.

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

- (a) the details of existing laws, rules and regulations for wildlife protection;
- (b) whether there is a need to review and amend Wildlife Protection Act and if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the State Governments for preparing a special action plan for protection of wildlife; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, state-wise and the action being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 has been enacted for protection of wild life in the country. The wildlife protection is also part of forest protection. Thus, the Indian Forest Act, 1927, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 also provide help in wildlife protection. The important rules and regulations framed under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 include:

- i. The Wild Life (Protection) Rules, 1995
- ii. The National Board for Wild Life Rules, 2003
- iii. The National Tiger Conservation Authority (Salaries, Allowances and Other Conditions of Appointment) Rules, 2006
- iv. The National Tiger Conservation Authority (Qualifications and Experience of Experts or Professional Members) Rules, 2006
- v. The Wild Life (Transactions and Taxidermy) Rules, 1973
- vi. The Wild Life (Stock Declaration) Central Rules, 1973
- vii. The Declaration of Wild Life Stock Rules, 2003
- viii. The Wild Life (Specified Plants Stock Declaration) Central Rules, 1995
- ix. The Wild Life (Specified Plants- Conditions for possession by Licensee) Rules, 1995

(b) The need to review and amend the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 has arisen from time to time and accordingly, the major amendments to the Act were made in 1986, 1993, 2003 and 2006. Presently, with a view to developing legal linkages with the global commitments on wildlife protection and also for providing more stringent deterrents to wildlife related crimes, a review of the existing Act was considered essential and therefore, the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Bill, 2013 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 5th August 2013.

(c) and (d) Union Government provides financial assistance to the States under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats' for Annual Plan of Operation proposed by the State/Union Territory Governments for conservation of wildlife and their habitats in the Protected Areas based on the Management Plans. The details of funds released to the State/Union Territory Governments under the Scheme during the last five years is given in Annexure-1. Assistance is also provided for conservation of identified species under the component of 'Species Recovery Plans'. Under this component, 17 species have been identified of which nine species recovery plans of 10 States have been provided assistance. The details of funds released for species recovery programme during the last five years is given in Annexure-2.