

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3632

ANSWERED ON:08.08.2017

Living Planet Report

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

- a) whether the Government has taken note of the report on the state of earth biodiversity by WWF living planet reporters and if so, the details thereof;
- b) whether the said report has indicated that India is likely to lose nearly half of its wildlife by 2020;
- c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the response of the Government thereto;
- d) the steps taken/being taken to conserve bio-diversity/wildlife and protect the endangered and exotic wildlife species; and
- e) the funds utilised by the Government on wildlife conservation programmes during the last three years, programme and State-wise?

**Answer**

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a) to (d) Yes, Madam. The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) has published a report titled "Living Planet Report 2016: Risk and resilience in a new era" in 2016.

The said Report of WWF mentions that by 2020, the vertebrate species populations globally may have declined on average by 67 percent since 1970.

The report does not specifically mention that India is likely to lose nearly half of its wildlife by 2020.

The important reasons attributed in the Report include anthropogenic pressures, land degradation, increased use of fertilizers and pesticides, climate change, etc.

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The Ministry has noted the contents of the report. The Ministry has taken the following important steps to conserve bio-diversity/wildlife and protect the endangered and exotic wildlife species include:

- i. The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 provides for punishment for violation of its provisions. The Act also provides for forfeiture of any equipment, vehicle or weapon that is used for committing wildlife offence(s).
- ii. Protected Areas, viz., National Parks, Sanctuaries, Tiger Reserves, Conservation Reserves and Community Reserves covering important wildlife habitats have been created all over the country under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to conserve wild animals and their habitats.
- iii. Enhanced financial assistance is provided to the State/Union Territory Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant', for providing better protection to wildlife including peacock, and improvement of habitat.
- iv. The Ministry has taken up the initiative for conservation breeding of the critically endangered species, like Asiatic Lion, Great Indian Bustard, Gangetic Dolphins, Manipur Brow Antler Deer, Vultures, etc. under the Endangered Species Recovery Programme Scheme.
- v. The local communities are involved in conservation measures through eco-development activities who help the forest department in protection of wildlife.
- vi. Wildlife Crime Control Bureau activities have been intensified to gather intelligence about poaching and unlawful trade in wild animals and animal articles, including peacocks, and to achieve inter-state and trans-boundary coordination in enforcement of wildlife laws.

(e) The Central Government provides financial assistance for protection and conservation of wildlife including endangered species and their habitats under Centrally Sponsored Schemes viz, 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats', 'Project Tiger', and 'Project Elephant' are provided to State/UT Governments. State-wise details of funds released under these schemes during the last three years are given in the Annexure-1A, 1B and 1C.

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