

Title: Regarding mismanagement in zoological parks and sanctuaries in protecting wild-life.

*SHRI K.K. KALIAPPAN (GOPICHETTIPALAYAM): Hon'ble Speaker Sir, we have been talking about ensuring forests and saving wild life. We have separate Ministry and a Cabinet Minister for that. But still the monitoring mechanism has failed to protect wild-life and it is unfortunate.

The recent seizure and confiscation of animal hides and skins in Uttar Pradesh has shocked the animal lovers of the entire world. At Kaka in U.P., seventy leopard skins, two hundred and twenty-one deer hides, eighteen thousand leopard nails and 132 tiger nails were confiscated. This big seizure was followed by the confiscation of 185 kgs. of leopards' bones. Totally the body parts of 1400 leopards and 60 tigers were taken away from a smugglers den. This is a very big seizure in the entire world. Mr. Valmik Thumar, the President of South Asian Save Wildlife project has stated that wildlife products worth 12 billion dollars are being smuggled out from this region. Last year, 50 leopard hides and 3 tiger hides were confiscated near Ghaziabad.

We have 25 tiger sanctuaries all over the country. Operation Tiger Project is there on one side. But at the same time, tigers and leopard are mercilessly hunted down on the other side. Their body parts are smuggled out. At Nandan Kanan Zoological Park in Orissa, thirteen tigers died last year. Those who are responsible to ensure their safety kill these rare species of wild animals. It is an irony that the protectors themselves prey on the protected ones. This only shows the mis-management of affairs in protecting the wildlife in our country.

* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

MR. SPEAKER: What is this? This is not proper.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I am calling one by one.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri K.K. Kaliappan, please take your seat. You cannot read in the 'zero hour' please.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record.

(Interruptions) *