

**Satellite Linked Computer Centres**

6074. SHRI M. M. PALLAM RAJU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the satellite linked computer centres of the Survey of India (SOI);

(b) the specific nature of activities being carried out by these centres;

(c) the percentage of survey information that has been computerised so far; and

(d) whether information gathered by the SOI is sold for commercial purposes and if so, the details of the primary customers for it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON) (a) and (b). Survey of India Computer Centres are not linked through Satellite.

(c) A beginning has been made to computerize the survey information.

(d) The digital survey information available with the Survey of India has not been sold so far for commercial purposes. However, it has been supplied free of charge to National Informatics Centre.

**Endangered Species of Animals**

6075. SHRI M. M. PALLAM RAJU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of endangered species of animals that have been identified by government and the estimated number of these species identified in each of the last 3 years;

(b) whether these figures have been subject to dispute due to the methodology followed for assessment; and

(c) the additional steps being taken/initiated by Government towards the preservation and multiplication of the above species?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b). A list of endangered species of mammals, birds and reptiles as contained in 1988 IUCN Red List of Threatened Animals, is annexed as statement which gives areas of the country where these are found. Estimates of population of these species in the whole country for the last three years are not available. Estimate of the population of Tigers according to 1989 census is 4334.

Pug-mark census technique is the methodology adopted for estimation of population of tigers. There is no dispute about this methodology but refinement in implementation is possible by imparting better training to personnel engaged in this work.

(c) Steps taken by Government for preservation and multiplication of the endangered species include:-

(i) Hunting of endangered species, and trade in articles made out of such species has been banned under the provisions of wild life (Protection) Act, 197

(ii) International trade in endangered species of plants and animals and articles made thereof has been banned under the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered