

Statement

Numbers of wild animals including endangered animals killed during the last two years in different States:

State	1996-97	1997-98
Andhra Pradesh	35	28
Arunachal Pradesh	01	02
*Assam	45	33
Bihar	02	02
Goa	Nil	NA
Gujarat	48	43
Haryana	588	NA
Himachal Pradesh	13	02
*Kerala	09	02 (upto Dec. 97)
Karnataka	54	71
Maharashtra	NA	NA
Meghalaya	04	02
Manipur	Nil	01
Mizoram	08	04
Madhya Pradesh	286	35
Nagaland	14	04
Orissa	53	35
Punjab	250	NA
Rajasthan	56	29
Sikkim	03	02
Tamil Nadu	NA	NA
Tripura	Nil	02
*Uttar Pradesh	02	05
West Bengal	Nil	02
Pondicherry	07	-----
TOTAL	1479	631

*As per calendar year

Mass Slaughter of Animals

1416. MASS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been sharp increase in the mass slaughter of deer, sambhars, wild boar and peacock in the country during the last one year;

(b) if so, the number of such cases which took place in each State during the said period;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted in each case; and

(d) whether steps have been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) (a) Some incidents of illegal hunting of deer, sambhar, wild boar and peacock have come to the notice of the Central Government.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The responsibility of enquiring into such cases and taking action against the offenders is mainly with the State Governments.

(d) Steps taken to protect the wild animals include:

(i) Hunting of wild animals included in Schedules I to IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, has been banned by law.

(ii) Special measures for protection and conservation of tiger, elephants and rhinos and their habitat are being implemented.

(iii) Raids are carried out by the wildlife authorities, whenever; information of illegal trade in wild animals reaches them.

(iv) International trade in endangered species of animals and articles made thereof is regulated under the provisions of the Convention on international Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

(v) Regional and Sub-regional offices of Wildlife Preservation have been set-up mostly at the main export centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wildlife products.

(vi) Interdepartmental coordination has been enhanced with other enforcement organisations like Police, BSF, Customs, JTBP, Coast Guards etc. Training programme on wildlife enforcement and

implementation were also conducted for all these organisations at New Delhi and Dehradun during 1995 & 1996.

(vii) Staff in National Parks and Sanctuaries are being provided modern arms, wireless equipments and communication facilities to check poaching in the National Parks and Sanctuaries.

(viii) Analogous to the Centre, the States have also been asked to set up co-ordination committee of all enforcement agencies so that there is effective co-operation to check poaching and control illegal trade.

Ganga Action Plan in U.P., Bihar and West Bengal

1417. KUMAR NIRMALA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have review the progress made under Ganga Action Plan (GAP) by the States of UP, Bihar and West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details of the review ;

(c) the details of short comings noticed and action proposed to accelerate the Ganga Action Plan, particularly in Bihar, and

(d) the details of action plan for 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) to (c) The progress of the Ganga Action Plan is reviewed regularly at various levels in both Central and State Governments. These reviews reveal the following:

(i) The delay in the implementation of the Action Plan was mainly due to lack of experience with the State implementing agencies, delay in land acquisition, litigations and court cases, contractual problems

and diversion of funds by the Governments of U.P. and Bihar.

(ii) Operation and maintenance of the assets created under the Action Plan in Bihar and to a large extent in U.P. However, it is satisfactory in West Bengal. The main reason for unsatisfactory Operation of assets in Bihar and U.P. is the inability of these State Governments to provide adequate funds for the purpose.

(iii) Erratic and poor availability of electricity for operating assets like pumping stations, sewage treatment plants and electric crematoria is also responsible for unsatisfactory operation and maintenance of assets in Bihar and U.P.

(iv) The conventional technologies adopted for sewage treatment under the Action Plan do not address fully to the microbial pollution in treated sewage. This results in the increase of coliform counts in the river water when such treated waste water is discharged therein.

On the basis of the progress reviewed, the corrective steps taken by the Government are:

(i) State Government have been asked to take advance action for land acquisition wherever applicable after which only the related schemes are approved. Release of Central grants and its utilisation by the State Governments is monitored more vigorously to minimize instance of diversion of funds.

(ii) Release of Central grants under the second phase of Ganga Action Plan to Bihar have been stopped till a firm commitment from the State Government is available for providing adequate funds for operation and maintenance of the assets. The Central Pollution Control Board and the State Pollution Control Boards of Bihar