

- (b) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of the study?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) In light of the concerns that have emerged during the public consultations organised by this Ministry from January, to February, 2010, the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) has constituted an expert group comprising of eminent scientists and experts to review the safety of Bt brinjal event EE1 from the point of view of its long term impact on the environment and human health. The expert group is likely to meet soon. The GEAC will take into consideration the views of the eminent scientists/experts while taking a final view on the matter.

Death of wild animals in Delhi Zoological Park

1242. SHRI KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a giraffe and other wild animals died in Delhi Zoological Park in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has investigated the reasons for large number of deaths in this zoological park;
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the concerned authority to ensure that such incidents do not occur in the future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) One male giraffe and sixteen other animals and birds died during the month of January, and February 2011 in the National Zoological Park, New Delhi. The details of various animals died are given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) Detailed post mortem was conducted on the animals and birds in the zoo and it was found that only one giraffe had died due to accident while other animals had died due to natural factors like infighting, shock, old age and infection etc.

- (e) The important steps taken to protect the animals in the zoo include:
 - (i) The bifurcated branches of all the trees in the Giraffe enclosure have been cut to prevent entanglement of the neck of giraffe in such branches.
 - (ii) The undulating surface in the enclosures has been levelled.
 - (iii) Regular examination of blood, urine etc. of animals is carried out to check outbreak of infection.

- (iv) Regular vaccination and de-worming of animals is carried out. Good quality food and medical support is ensured in the zoo.

Statement

Details of Death of Wild Animals in Delhi Zoological Park

Sl.No.	Date	Name of the animal
1.	08.01.2011	Spotted deer
2.	10.01.2011	Spectacled caiman crocodile
3.	11.01.2011	Giraffe, blue and yellow macaque parrot
4.	13.01.2011	2 Sanghai deer and 1 Spotted deer
5.	15.01.2011	Spotted deer
6.	25.01.2011	3 Red jungle fowl, 1 Ring necked pheasant and 1 Spotted deer
7.	28.01.2011	Blossom headed parakeet
8.	17.02.2011	Sambar deer
9.	18.02.2011	Chinkara
10.	19.02.2011	Spotted deer
11.	22.02.2011	Spotted deer
12.	25.02.2011	Sanghai deer

Uncontrolled discharge of sewage into rivers

1243. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether manifold increase in population and uncontrolled discharge of sewage into the major rivers are the major causes for pollution in our rivers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of assistance received for cleaning the rivers; and
- (d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to check uncontrolled discharge of sewage into the rivers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) Pollution load on rivers has increased over the years due to rapid urbanisation and industrialization. Abstraction of water for irrigation, drinking, industrial use, power etc. compounds the challenge. Discharge of untreated wastewater