

expressing stacked events, namely, MON89034 and NK603 at University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad in Karnataka. It was informed that the representation is based on the Report of the Compliance Committee which advised the applicant "Before planting NK 603 event treatment in future, the permission from competent authority may be obtained". The matter was considered by the GEAC in the meeting held on 8.2.2012. On reviewing the facts of the case, the Committee noted that (i) the field trials with transgenic maize was conducted as per the experimental field design and protocol approved by the GEAC and Director, Directorate of Maize Research; and (ii) the recommendations of the Compliance Committee is on the basis of the recent policy decision taken by the GEAC not to allow unapproved events during field trials. Accordingly the Committee concluded that there has been no violation in the instant case.

Measures for checking extinction of wildlife

4987. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps taken by Government to check the extinction of wildlife in the country; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the provisions of the Wildlife Act, 1972 have no teeth to check the poachers and wildlife parts smugglers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) The Government has taken the following steps to check the extinction of wild life in the country:

- (i) A network of 668 Protected Areas, viz., National Parks, Sanctuaries, Conservation Reserves and Community Reserve has been created in the country under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to provide for in situ conservation of wildlife and its habitats.
- (ii) A network of Zoos has been created in the country, which are financially supported and statutorily regulated by the Central Zoo Authority, to ensure *ex situ* conservation of important species of wild animals, including undertaking conservation breeding programmes for such species.
- (iii) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats' includes the component 'Recovery programmes for Saving Critically Endangered Species and Habitats' to provide for special

measures to support such species. Presently, 16 species have been identified for support under this component which include Snow Leopard, Bustards (including Floricans), Dolphin, Hangul, Nilgiri Tahr, Marine Turtles, Dugongs and coral reefs, Edible Nest Swiftlet, Asian Wild Buffalo, Nicobar Megapode, Manipur Brow-antlered Deer, Vultures, Malabar Civet, Indian Rhinoceros, Asiatic Lion, Swamp Deer and Jerdon's Courser.

- (iv) Legal protection has been provided to endangered species of wild animals and plants against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (v) The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, has been amended and made more stringent. The punishments in cases of offences have been enhanced. The Act also provides for forfeiture of any equipment, vehicle or weapon that is used for committing wildlife offence.
- (vi) Financial and technical assistance is extended to the State Governments under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz., 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' for providing better protection and conservation to wildlife.
- (vii) The Central Bureau of investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders.
- (vii) The State Governments have been requested to strengthen the field formations and intensify patrolling in and around the Protected Areas.
- (ix) The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau has been set up for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife and its products
- (b) No, Sir.

Instruction of Enforcement Directorate to lodge FIR

4988. SHRI MOHAMMAD ADEEB: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Enforcement Directorate (ED) has instructed to State Government to lodge FIR against some public representatives like Chairman Nagar Palika, MLA and others;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;