

telecast from 30 Regional Centres of Doordarshan and 28 Regional Centres of All India Radio respectively five days a week would also create awareness about NCDs and other diseases in India.

Government of India has enacted the Anti-tobacco Law, (The Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products Act) (COTPA 2003) with a view to discourage consumption of tobacco products by imposing various regulatory measures. Further, under food safety regulations, tobacco products such as Gutkha and Pan Masala containing tobacco and Nicotine have been prohibited.

Government of India has also launched the National Tobacco control Programme (NTCP) in 2007-08 which, at present, covers 42 districts in 21 States.

The House then adjourned at two minutes past eleven of the clock.

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The House re-assembled at twelve of the clock

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

##### Wildlife reserves affected by floods

\*222. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the damage caused to animals, especially rhinos, due to the flooding of river Brahmaputra in July, 2012;
- (b) whether Government has been able to provide adequate relief measures to the surviving animals and, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government would provide additional funds to wildlife reserves which are affected by natural disasters in the coming years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) Mortality of wild animals due to flood has been reported during the year only in the Kaziranga Tiger Reserve (Assam). As reported by the State, a total of 631 animal deaths including 19 rhinos have occurred in Kaziranga due to the excess water brought by the flood during June- July, 2012, which was more than the ecological requirement of the flood plains of the Kaziranga. The details of mortality are given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) Flood is a recurring natural phenomenon in Kaziranga which creates a variety of habitats suitable for different species. However, the current flood brought excess water than the ecological requirement of the floodplains of Kaziranga National Park, resulting into mortality of wild animals as well as damage to infrastructure like, roads, anti-poaching camps, artificial high ground etc. Similar high floods of 1988 and 1998 recorded animal mortality of 1203 and 652 respectively. Under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger, funding support is provided to the reserve, which, *inter-alia*, includes flood mitigation measures.

(c) Funding assistance is provided to States under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of “Protect Tiger”, “Project Elephant” and “Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats” to project and foster wildlife conservation.

**Statement**

*Details of animal death recorded during high flood in Kaziranga Tiger Reserve during June-July, 2012 (as reported by State)*

Sl.No.	Species	Total
1.	Rhino	19
2.	Elephant	1
3.	Swamp deer	11
4.	Buffallo	4
5.	Hog deer	529
6.	Sambar	22
7.	Wild boar	34
8.	Porcupine	5
9.	Hog badger	3
10.	Python	2
11.	Fox	1
TOTAL		631