

1	2	4	5
Maharashtra	4982	18914	Increase
Odisha	25516	12603	Decrease
Rajasthan	-	754	-
Jharkhand	131	2645	Increase
Western Ghats Landscape Complex			
Karnataka	20506	21326	Stable
Kerala	8363	9274	Increase
Tamil Nadu	14484	10060	Decrease
TOTAL	168437	147184	

Statement II

General causative factors affecting wild carnivores, leading to their decline

1. Mortality of wild animals due to poaching.
2. Degradation of forest status outside Protected Areas/Tiger Reserves owing to human pressure, livestock pressure, and ecologically unsustainable land uses.
3. Fragmentation leading to loss of gene flow from source populations.
4. Mortality of wild animals due to man-animal conflicts.
5. Loss of reproduction owing to disturbance on account of heavily used infrastructure like highways, etc.
6. Lack of adequate protection in outside areas.
7. Loss of forest quality in terms of prey biomass to support large carnivores like tiger and leopard.
8. Insurgency/law and order problems in some tiger reserves/protected areas/forest areas.

Amendments to the Wild Life Protection Act

1902. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government will bring in further amendments to the Wild Life Protection Act giving more importance to the Gram Sabhas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the same; and
- (c) the ways in which these amendments are expected to influence the conservation of wildlife?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Panchayati Raj had suggested for amendments in certain sections of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 for involvement of the Gram Sabhas in the Scheduled Areas, in the process of declaration and management of Protected Areas. The Ministry of Environment and Forests was in agreement with the suggestions as it brings in more community participation in conservation of wildlife and its habitats in the country. The Cabinet Committee has approved the said proposal in its Meeting held on 4th October 2012.

Decrease in forest areas due to industrialization

†1903. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the extent of decrease in forests areas due to globalisation, industrialization, urbanisation and harnessing of coal mines during the last three years, State-wise; and
- (b) the creation of new forest areas through afforestation during the last three years and in the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) The forest cover assessment is carried out biennially by the Forest Survey of India, Dehradun. The details of last two assessments as reported in the *i.e.* India State of Forest Report-2009 and India State of Forest Report-2011 are given in the Statement I (*See* below).

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.