Man-animal conflict in Guwahati

798. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted to understand the reason for man-animal conflict in Guwahati;

(b) the number of Leopards and Royal Bengal Tigers and Bears killed in man-animal conflict and the number of arrests made and the quantum of punishment given;

(c) whether it is a fact that the killers of the animals have mutilated the body of the dead animals and severed body parts and nails etc. in front of media; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) Ministry of Environment and Forests has not conducted any study to understand the reason for man-animal conflict in Guwahati.

(b) The details of the numbers of leopards and bears killed in the country in man-animal conflict and number of arrests made and the quantum of punishment given have not been collated in the Ministry. The year-wise mortality of Royal Bengal Tigers killed in the country during last three years and during the current year due to different reasons, as reported by States, are as below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Natural and other causes (Animals)</th>
<th>Poaching including seizure (Animals)</th>
<th>Cases under scrutiny</th>
<th>Total (Animals)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013 (as on 27.2.2013)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The number of Royal Bengal tigers killed in man-animal conflict has not been collated separately.

(c) In a few instances reports have appeared in the media that after the killing of wild animals in conflict cases, their corpses were mutilated, burnt or mistreated by mobs.

(d) The details of such instances have not been collated in the Ministry. Ministry has, however, issued instructions to the Chief Wildlife Wardens of States to take strict action against the offenders involved in such killing or brutality against wild animals in accordance with the provisions contained under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

Poaching of Rhinos in Assam

799. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the condition of Kaziranga National Parks in Assam is not good;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the killing of Rhinos has yet not stopped;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government to stop killing of Rhinos and development of Kaziranga National Park?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) to (e) Poaching of rhinos in the Kaziranga Tiger Reserve is a cause for concern.

Central assistance under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger is provided to the said reserve, inter alia, for development, protection and antipoaching activities. The steps taken by the State Government to protect and preserve one horned rhinos in Assam is given in Statement.

Statement

The steps taken by the State Government to protect and preserve one horned rhinos in Assam

1. Government of Assam has granted the power to use firearms to forest officers at all levels for protection of the forest and wildlife in the State