

- (b) the number of deaths for which the zoo staff were found responsible;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the cage made for the tigress in Indore Zoo was too small to accommodate her along with her cubs;
- (d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to enlarge the size of this cage; and
- (e) whether Government would also gather information as to whether the environment at zoos all over the country is congenial for the animals or not?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) The details of animals died in the zoos all over the country and Indore Zoo during last three years are given below:-

Sl. No.	Year	No. of animals died in zoos all over the country	No. of animals died in Kamla Nehru Prani Sangrahalay-Zoo, Indore
1.	2011-2012	2633	14
2.	2012-2013	1776	17
3.	2013-2014	2515	23
GRAND TOTAL		6908	54

The major reasons of death are old age, shock, pneumonia, Tuberculosis, etc.

- (b) Nil.
- (c) No.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) The environment at zoos all over the country for animals is congenial to them.

Impact of Aceclofenae on vulture population

2859.DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the painkiller 'Aceclofenae', administered to cattle has shown detrimental effect on vulture population;

(b) if so, whether Government proposes to ban the unsafe drug and safety testing of other potentially toxic drugs in order to create a safe natural environment for vultures in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government for protection of fast declining the last few species of vultures in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) and (b) Although the veterinary drug Aceclofenac bears a close structural and pharmacological resemblance to Diclofenac, there are no reports available in the Ministry indicating specific studies conducted on the detrimental effect of drug Aceclofenac on Vultures. In view of this, presently, no decision has been taken to ban Aceclofenac in the country.

(c) The following are the important steps taken by Government for protection of Vultures in the country:

- (i) Protection status of White backed, Long Billed and Slender Billed Vultures has been upgraded from Schedule IV to Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (ii) Two workshops were organized in New Delhi in September 2000 and April, 2004 to work out a comprehensive strategy for conservation of vultures in consultation with scientists.
- (iii) Bombay Natural History Society in collaboration with the Haryana State Forest Department has taken up a project on conservation of vultures. A 'Vulture Captive Care facility' has been established at Panchkula.
- (iv) The Ministry of Health has been requested to replace the use of the drug Diclofenac with suitable alternative drugs.
- (v) The Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) on May 6, 2006 has issued order for withdrawal of licenses for manufacturing Diclofenac for veterinary purposes.
- (vi) The State Governments have been requested to set up vulture care centres for the conservation of three species of vultures.
- (vii) Government of India has formulated a National Action Plan (2006) on Vulture Conservation. The Action Plan provides for strategies, actions for

containing the decline of vulture population through *ex-situ*, *in-situ* vulture conservation.

- (viii) Department of forests of all States/UTs has been requested to constitute a Monitoring committee for vulture conservation with a view to implement the Action Plan, 2006 and for recovery of existing vulture sites.
- (ix) Captive breeding centres at Zoos at Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Junagarh and Hyderabad have also been set up through Central Zoo Authority.
- (x) Ministry has also taken initiatives to strengthen the mass education and awareness for vulture conservation.

**Steps taken under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan mission
to keep environment clean**

†2860. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any initiative or any steps have been taken under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan mission to keep environment clean and tidy; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Cleanliness Oath (Swachhata Shapath) was administered to the employees of this Ministry. A special cleaning drive for cleaning up of office space and organizing files/records in a neat manner was observed during the period 25 September, 2014 to 2 October, 2014 and necessary instructions were issued to all employees of this Ministry. A special drive for recording/weeding of files/records during Swachh Bharat Abhiyan was also taken up in the Ministry. As a result of this drive around 1400 V files/records have been weeded out. Some more records have been identified which would be weeded out in future.

Conservation of tigers and Asiatic Lions

2861. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the expense incurred for tigers every year under the Tiger project, the details of schemes under the Tiger project;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.