

Ecosystems, (vii) City specific Environmental Action Plans etc. These action plans are implemented by the Central and State agencies like the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs), State Departments of Environment and Authorities set up under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

Introduction of new tranquilizers

1265. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the elephant darting experts have suggested the introduction of new tranquilizers and involvement of a host of officials in mob control measures while restive animals are being darted and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that though several new drugs were used worldwide for tranquilizing wild animals, including elephants, many of them were still not used or available in India; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) No suggestions/reports have been received in the Ministry regarding new tranquilizers and techniques for darting of elephants.

(b) and (c) Drugs for tranquilising of wild animals, including elephants, are either available in the country or are imported in required quantities as and when required, as per national and international regulations.

Lion as National Animal

1266. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to declare lion as the country's national animal in place of tiger; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons, particularly when the tiger population is much larger than that of lions and tigers are found in about 15 States compared to lions that are found only in one State *i.e.* Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) and (b) The Central Government does not have any plan to declare Lion as country's national animal in place of tiger.