

**Garbage consumption by wild animals in Ranthambore**

†843. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that wild animals in Ranthambore sanctuary are consuming polythene and other garbage to satiate their hunger;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to make the National Parks free from polythene;

(c) whether steps have been taken by Government to provide sufficient diet to the wild animals; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) to (d) Consumption of polythene by wild animals is an inadvertent and sporadic occurrence, which does not satiate hunger. The Government of India advised all State Forest Departments to undertake cleanliness activities in all the Protected Areas including Tiger Reserves with renewed impetus under the Swachh Bharat Mission. Further, nature guides and visitors are sensitized on these initiatives and requested to follow the same before entering any Tiger Reserve. In addition, staff of Tiger Reserves are directed to ensure that there is no waste disposal by tourists in their jurisdiction.

Chief Wildlife Warden, Jaipur, Rajasthan has also banned the use/entry of single use plastic products in all Tiger Reserves/ Sanctuaries/ Protected Areas in the State.

The Ministry has been providing financial assistance to the States/UTs under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Development of Wildlife Habitats, Project Tiger and Project Elephant, for conservation of wildlife and improvement of their habitats so as to meet dietary requirements of wildlife.

**Human wildlife conflict**

844. PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that human wildlife conflict is on rise in the country;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.