

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 26.07.2010**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE .**

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Dr. Janardhan Waghmare

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the wildlife in the country is on the brink of extinction; and
- (b) if so, what measures are being implemented to save it?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a)&(b) Although population fluctuation in wildlife is a naturally occurring phenomenon, there are no reports to indicate that wildlife in the country is on the brink of extinction. Measures taken by the Government to protect the wildlife of the country are as follows:

1. Threatened species of wildlife are listed in the Schedules of the Wildlife (Protection), Act, 1972, thereby according them the highest degree of protection.
2. Financial and technical assistance is provided under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of `Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats`, `Project Tiger` and `Project Elephant` for providing better protection and conservation of wildlife.
3. Legal protection has been provided to endangered wild animals and plants against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
4. The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, has been amended from time to time and made more stringent against wildlife related offences.
5. A network of Protected Areas has been established to conserve and protect wildlife and their habitats.
6. Wildlife Crime Control Bureau has been set up to check illegal trade in wildlife and its products.