

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 1813
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.12.2022

Import of Cheetahs from Namibia and cost associated with reintroduction

1813 SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI:

Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cheetahs imported from Namibia and cost associated with reintroduction;
- (b) whether any agreement of cooperation was sought with Namibia related to lifting the ivory trade ban, if so, details thereof;
- (c) number of cheetahs in quarantine zones at Kuno National Park and number of cheetahs in acclimatization enclosures;
- (d) the number of cheetahs who have undergone ailments/diseases, whether any cheetahs have experienced miscarriage, details thereof;
- (e) whether more cheetahs will be imported in the next five years, if so, funds earmarked for the programme; and
- (f) number of cheetahs to be reintroduced and countries from which they will be imported?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a) Under the Project Cheetah, in initial phase, eight Cheetahs have been introduced in India. Under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger, a budgetary provision of Rs. 38.7 Crore has been made for five years besides funding support of Rs. 29.47 Crore under Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) which includes cost of Cheetah introduction, management and maintenance.
- (b) No Sir, the Government of India has signed an Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of the Republic of Namibia on 'Wildlife Conservation and Sustainable Biodiversity Utilization' on 20th July, 2022.
- (c) There are no Cheetahs under quarantine, all the eight Cheetahs have been released in larger acclimatization enclosures.
- (d) No Sir, no health complications have been reported in the introduced Cheetahs.
- (e) & (f) As per the Action Plan for introduction of Cheetah, every year depending upon the availability of animals and status of introduced Cheetahs, 12-14 individuals are proposed to be brought from South Africa and Namibia or other African countries during the next five years.
