

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2592
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.03.2023

Deaths of captive elephants

2592. SMT. PHULO DEVI NETAM:
MS.SUSHMITADEV:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the frequency of death of captive elephants in the country has increased during religious processions, if so, the details of such incidents reported in the last five years;
- (b) whether Government is considering any proposal to prevent the use of captive elephants by religious institutions and individuals in religious festivals, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Government intends to introduce any auditing mechanism to determine the causes of death of captive elephants in the country, if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

- (a)to(c) No such report has been received by the Ministry on increased frequency of death of captive elephants in the country during religious processions. The use of captive elephants are monitored as per the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, Rules and Guidelines of the respective State Governments. Further, an advisory on postmortem of elephants by panel of 3 veterinarians has been issued by the Ministry, to all the States/UTs for identifying the cause of death.
