GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3871

TO BE ANSWERED ON. 06.04.2023

Action plan for introduction of Cheetah in India

3871. DR. V. SIVADASAN:

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

- (a) the estimated cost of the 'Action Plan for Introduction of Cheetah in India' and the actual amount spent so far;
- (b) whether there has been any high level scientific study upon the possible consequences of such introduction, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has noted that some of the National Parks are already having a high number of big cats leading to human-animal conflicts; and
- (d) if so, the social impact of introduction of Cheetah in this context?

ANSWER

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

- (a) As per the Action Plan for Introduction of cheetah in India, for the first phase (5 years), the estimated cost is Rs. 91.65 crore. So far Rs. 24.095 crore has been released by the Central Government for implementation of Project Cheetah.
- (b) Yes Sir. The Government of India has prepared a detailed scientific action plan for Introduction of Cheetah in India which is available in the public domain.
- (c) & (d) In India, incidents of human-wildlife conflicts are reported mainly due to leopards and tigers. Cheetah are smaller in size and incidents of human-wildlife conflict are very rare in case of Cheetah. Further, introduction of Cheetah will help in conserving the open forest and grassland ecosystem along with its native species.
