

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3081
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.03.2025

Establishment of Bio Bank in Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park

3081. SHRI TEJVEER SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the country's first Bio Bank has been established at Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park (Darjeeling Zoo) and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the objectives and functions of the Bio Bank as well as the categories of animal specimens being collected and preserved;
- (c) whether the Bio Bank is collaborating with scientific institutions for research on conservation and revival of endangered species, and if so, the details of such collaborations; and
- (d) whether Government proposes to expand this Bio Bank model to other Zoological Parks in Uttar Pradesh and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

- (a) to (c) As informed by Central Zoo Authority, a bio banking facility has been set up in Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling, West Bengal.

A bio banking facility is aimed at strengthening conservation breeding of endangered species using assisted reproductive technologies. The biological samples in the facility are collected from dead animals and animals housed in zoos.

The bio banking facility is collaborating with the CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad.

- (d) No such proposal for the State of Uttar Pradesh is currently under consideration by the Central Zoo Authority.
