

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4222
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.03.2017

Elephant Population

4222. SHRIMATI P.K.
SREEMATHI TEACHER:

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

- (a) the number and species of Elephants found in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the trend in Elephant population and projected increase/decline in the coming years; and
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to protect the Elephant population in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE)

- (a) Only one species, Indian Elephant (*Elephas Maximus Indicus*) is found in the country. As per 2012 census, elephant population in the country is 29391-30711. State-wise elephant population is given in Annexure.
- (b) As per available information elephant population in the country is increasing.
- (c) Measures taken by the Government to protect elephant population in the country are given below:
 - (i) Financial and technical assistance is provided to elephant range states under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes 'Project Elephant' for conservation and management of elephants, protection of elephant habitat and corridors and welfare of captive elephants.
 - (ii) The State has notified good elephant habitats as "Elephant Reserves", for better conservation and management of elephants. So far 29 Elephant Reserves have been established in 14 States.
 - (iii) Elephant is included under Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, to provide it highest degree of legal protection.
 - (iv) Regular and extensive patrolling of forest areas and anti poaching measures by frontline field staff of the State Forest Departments.
 - (v) Trainings and awareness camps are organised regularly for local people for conservation of wildlife.
 - (vi) Local communities are organised into Joint Forest Management Committees/Eco-development Committees for protection of wildlife habitat, including elephant corridors.
 - (vii) Habitat improvement and eco-restoration is taken up in critical areas of elephant reserves and corridors.

ANNEXURE**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4222 RAISED BY SHRIMATI P.K. SHREEMATHI TEACHER REGARDING 'ELEPHANT POPULATION' DUE FOR REPLY ON 28.03.2017.****Population of wild elephants as reported by States**

REGION	STATE	ELEPHANT POPULATION	
		2007	2012
North-East	Arunachal Pradesh	1690	890
	Assam	5281	5620
	Meghalaya	1811	1811*
	Nagaland	152	212
	Mizoram	12	-
	Manipur	-	-
	Tripura	59	59
	West Bengal (North)	300-350	647
Sub total		9305-9355	9239
East	West Bengal (South)	25	#
	Jharkhand	624	688
	Orissa	1862	1930
	Chhattisgarh	122	247
Sub total		2633	2865
North	Uttarakhand	1346	1346*
	Uttar Pradesh	380	291
Sub total		1726	1637
South	Tamil Nadu	3867	4015
	Karnataka	4035	5648-6488
	Kerala	6068	5942-6422
	Andhra Pradesh	28	41
	Maharashtra	7	4
Sub total		14005	15650-16970
GRAND TOTAL		27669-27719	29391-30711

* Meghalaya and Uttarakhand has not conducted elephant census after 2007. Therefore, the figure of 2007 has been maintained for 2012 as well.

The figure for North and South Bengals are combined.