

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 253**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.07.2017

**Death of Wild Animals**

253. SHRIMATI RANJANBEN BHATT:

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

- (a) whether it is true that the wild animals in zoos located in different parts of the country are dying due to heat and cold;
- (b) if so, the details of such deaths in different zoos in the country including Delhi Zoo during the last one year;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to take any steps to save these wild animals; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

- (a) & (b) Extreme heat and cold condition affect the health of wildlife in zoos, which sometimes results in their death. Details on deaths due to heat and cold of wild animals kept in the recognised zoos in the country, as per their Annual Inventory Report for year 2016-17, are given at **Annexure-I**. No death of animals due to heat and cold has been received from Delhi Zoo.
- (c) & (d) Yes Madam. The Government have taken following steps for upkeep and healthcare of animals housed in zoos across the country:
  1. The Government of India framed Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009 for health, upkeep and veterinary care of the animals.
  2. An advisory has been issued to all the States to constitute a Health Advisory Committee to advise the zoo operators in the State on Animal Healthcare related matters and with a mandate to visit the zoos at least once every three months to monitor compliance with the Rules regarding upkeep and healthcare of animals.
  3. The Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Bareilly has been designated as National Referral Centre for extending necessary help to the zoos in the country for health and veterinary care of the captive wild animals.
  4. The Government of India (Central Zoo Authority) regularly evaluates all the zoos recognised under Section 38H(1) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and directs the zoos to construct enclosures for animals to protect from harsh climatic conditions.
  5. The action has been taken against the zoos not meeting the norms and standards specified under the Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009.

**Reply to Part (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. †253  
regarding 'Death of Wild Animals' due for reply on 18.07.2017**

Deaths reported by recognised zoos due to heat and cold, as per Annual Inventory Report for year 2016-17 of animals housed therein,					
S. No.	State	Name and location of Zoo	Species	No. of deaths	Reported reason for death
1	Andhra Pradesh	Sri Venkateswara Zoological Park, Tirupati	White ibis	10	heat stroke
2	Gujarat	Sayajibaug Zoo, Vadodara	Nilgai	1	heat stroke
3	Haryana	Mini Zoo, Bhiwani	Long snouted crocodile	10	cold stroke
4	Jharkhand	Jawaharlal Nehru Biological Park, Bokaro	Nilgai	1	heat stroke.
5	Madhya Pradesh	Gandhi Zoological Park, Gwalior	Kalij pheasant	1	cardiac arrest caused by heat stroke
6	Madhya Pradesh	Van Vihar National Park Zoo, Bhopal	Gaur	1	heat stroke
		<b>Grand total</b>		<b>24</b>	