

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4628
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.03.2018

Protection of Elephants

4628. SHRIMATI KOTHAPALLI GEETHA:
SHRI J.C. DIVAKAR REDDY:

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

- (a) whether the elephants are facing difficulties in Seshachalam forest area near Kadapa-Chittoor border areas in Andhra Pradesh due to scarcity of water, reduction in forest area, movement of people in forest areas, smuggling activities etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (c) the steps being taken to protect elephants in Seshachalam forest area in Andhra Pradesh in future?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

- (a) No sir.
- (b) Question does not arise.
- (c) The measures taken by the Government alongwith the State Forest Department to protect elephants in Seshachalam forest area in Andhra Pradesh are:
 - (i) Financial and technical assistance is provided to elephant range states under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes 'Project Elephant' for protection and conservation of elephants in the country.
 - (ii) Works like creation of water sources, plantation of fruiting trees, pasture development, fire protection etc. are being done to enrich elephant habitat so that elephants can be retained in their habitat.
 - (iii) Prompt payment of the compensation to the affected persons to reduce man-elephant conflict.
 - (iv) Forest Department is engaging local communities as animal trackers to know the movement of elephants and also to caution local people to avoid man-animal conflict and to prevent damage or loss of human life and elephants.
