

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No.6516**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.04.2018**

**Availability of Animals in Zoos**

6516. DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA

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

- (a) whether some enclosures of most of the zoos are lying empty for many years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, zoo-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has chalked out any proposal to fill these empty enclosures by exchange programmes and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government plans to import those animals from other countries which are not available in the country and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) & (b) Recognised zoos in the country are operated by the State Government, Central Government, Municipal Corporation, NGO / Society / Trust, Industry, and PSU. The information on the empty enclosures in zoos is not maintained in the Ministry.
- (c) The recognized zoos mutually negotiate the exchange of animals among them. They submit proposal to the Central Zoo Authority for the animals agreed by them during negotiation for approval under Section 381 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. The Central Zoo Authority grants permission as per proposal received from the zoo keeping in view approved Animal Collection Plan of the zoo, for preparing of single animals, infusion of new blood in a population, lifetime care of rescued animals and to form viable population by shifting.
- (d) The exchange of animals through import is negotiated by the respective recognized zoos with the foreign zoos keeping in view the approved Animal Collection Plan of the zoo. After their mutual consent, the proposal for import is approved by the Central Zoo Authority and the Director, Wildlife Preservation, Government of India. Afterwards, the representative zoo takes necessary steps to import the animals.

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