

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4033
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.08.2018

Death of Birds and Animals in Zoos

4033. SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL:

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

- (a) whether several birds and animals have died in Delhi zoos during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to check such incidents in Delhi Zoo as well as other zoos of the country?

ANSWER

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

- (a) & (b) Details of animals and birds died in National Zoological Park, Delhi during last three years and the current year, as informed by Director, National Zoological Park, is as below:

Year	Number of animals/birds died
2015-16	97
2016-17	325
2017-18	91
2018-19 (upto 30 th June,2018)	51

- (c) The steps taken to check death of animals housed in zoos across the country including the National Zoological Park, Delhi includes:
1. The Government of India has framed Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009 for health upkeep and veterinary care of the animals under which following provisions have been :
 - (a) As per Schedule 5 (4) of Rule 10 under the Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009, respective zoo operator shall construct feeding cells and kraals as per standards specified by the Central Zoo Authority and they shall be so designed that these can also serve as indoor enclosures for the animals during extreme weather conditions as

well as for secure stay during the nights. The CZA has prescribed minimum sizes of animal enclosures for the captive animals including birds.

- (b) Schedule 5 (6) of Rule 10 under the Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009 mandates that the curatorial and the veterinary staff of every zoo shall keep a close watch on the general behaviour and health parameters of the zoo animals.
 - (c) Schedule 6(6) of Rule 10 under the Recognition of Zoo Rule, 2009 mandates that every zoo shall have linkages with the eminent institutions and organizations working in the field of wild animal healthcare.
2. The Central Zoo Authority has circulated 'Suggested Health Monitoring Protocol for Zoos' on 18.11.2004 to the Chief Wildlife Warden of all States and Union Territories and In-charge of all the recognised zoos for upkeep and veterinary care of captive animals.
 3. 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.
 4. 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.
 5. The Central Zoo Authority, in association with the Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), Izatnagar has developed manual on 'Standardization of Animal Diets in Indian Zoos'.
 6. The Central Zoo Authority, in association with the Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), Izatnagar has developed a manual on 'Standards, Guidelines and Protocol on Disease Diagnosis and Cure of Wild Animals in Indian Zoos', which prescribes protocol/criteria to be followed by zoos regarding food and healthcare of animals.
 7. The Government of India (Central Zoo Authority) regularly evaluates all the zoos recognised under Section 38-H of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to monitor compliance with the prescribed standard and norms.
 8. The action has been taken against the zoos not meeting the norms and standards specified under the Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009.
 9. Health Advisory Committee of National Zoological Park meets periodically and their recommendations towards healthcare and management of captive animals are also implemented by the Zoo.
