

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1949**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.03.2023

**Poaching of Wild Animals**

1949. SHRIMATI GODDETI MADHAVI:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that unemployed youth living in villages close to the forest areas are resorting to poaching of wild animals in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government has proposed any programmes to create awareness among the youth against the consequences of poaching wild animals; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a) and (b) Protection and management of wildlife is primarily the responsibility of States/Union Territories. The Ministry has not received any specific report from States/Union Territories regarding poaching of wild animals by unemployed youth living in villages close to forest areas.
- (c) and (d) The National Wildlife Action Plan (2017-2031) released by the Ministry in 2017 acknowledges the importance of public awareness as a tool for conserving forests and wildlife. It envisages use of different media such as films, print, theatre, drama, advertisements, hoardings, posters, seminars, and workshops for spreading awareness regarding the environment and mobilizing people's participation in wildlife conservation. The Ministry also provides financial assistance to States under Centrally Sponsored Schemes for various activities related to wildlife conservation, including awareness generation programmes.

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