

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 4363**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.03.2023**

**Endangered Wildlife Species**

4363. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any survey/review of extinct/endangered wildlife species in the country and whether any comparative data has been prepared there under;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the number of wildlife species in Madhya Pradesh reported a constant decrease during the last five years, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of extinct wildlife species in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh along with the steps taken by the Government for their conservation, development and resettlement?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a) to (d) Management of wildlife and its habitats, including population assessment, is primarily the responsibility of the respective States/Union Territories. As per available information, the population of Asiatic lion, tiger and elephants during the last three censuses is as follows:

S.No	Asiatic Lion		Tiger		Elephant	
	Year	Population	Year	Population	Year	Population
1	2010	411	2010	1706	2007	27669-27719
2	2015	523	2014	2226	2012	29391-30711
3	2020	674	2018	2967	2017	29964

Although no species from India has been declared as extinct in the recent past, some animal species like cheetah, Pink Headed Duck and Himalayan quail have been reported extinct in India.

As informed by the State of Madhya Pradesh, the number of Wildlife is on increasing trend in the State.

A number of steps have been taken by the Government to protect and conserve forests and wildlife. Some of the important steps are as follows:

- i. Financial assistance is provided to States under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of 'Development of Wildlife Habitats', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' for activities like creation and maintenance of water holes for wild animals in Protected Areas, soil and moisture conservation measures, establishment of anti-poaching camps, strengthening wildlife veterinary care, eradication of weeds, creation and maintenance of fire lines, awareness generation.
- ii. Financial assistance is provided to States for the recovery programme of critically endangered species for saving critically endangered species and habitats under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of 'Development of Wildlife Habitats'. A total of 22 critically endangered species have been identified under this programme.
- iii. Rare and endangered species of animals found in India have been listed in Schedule-I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, thereby providing them highest degree of protection.
- iv. The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 provides for punishment for violation of its provisions. The Act also provides for forfeiture of any equipment, vehicle or weapon that is used for committing wildlife offence
- v. Wild Life Crime Control Bureau has been set up to gather intelligence about poaching and unlawful trade in wild animals and animal articles and to achieve inter-state and trans-boundary coordination in enforcement of wildlife laws.
- vi. The Ministry has formulated the 3<sup>rd</sup> 'National Wildlife Action Plan' for a period of 2017 to 2031 to save wild animals in the country. The Plan focuses on landscape approach in conservation of all wildlife irrespective of where they occur. It also gives special emphasis to recovery of threatened species of wildlife while conserving their habitats which includes terrestrial, inland aquatic, coastal and marine ecosystems.
- vii. In order to further strengthen conservation of wildlife, Eco-Sensitive Zones (ESZs) are notified around National Parks and Sanctuaries under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

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