

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1652**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.07.2023

**Project Great Indian Bustard**

1652. SHRI SANGAM LAL GUPTA:  
SHRI C.R. PATIL:  
SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY:  
DR. RAMAPATI RAM TRIPATHI:  
SHRI ANURAG SHARMA:

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering to launch 'Project Great Indian Bustard' (GIB) on the lines of Project Tiger and Project Elephant;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to conserve and protect the GIB;
- (d) the number of GIB found in the country as on the date along with its geographical location; and
- (e) the measures taken by the Government to engage the local communities in the conservation of GIB?

**ANSWER**

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

(a), (b) and (c)      The Ministry provides financial assistance to the States under the Recovery Programme for saving critically endangered species and its habitats and conservation and management of protected areas components of Centrally Sponsored Scheme – Development of Wildlife Habitats for conservation and protection of Great Indian Bustard. Further, the Ministry sanctioned an outlay of Rs. 33.85 crores for the duration of seven years for the programme titled 'Habitat Improvement and Conservation Breeding of Great Indian Bustard-an integrated approach' under the CAMPA in the year 2016.

The other important steps taken by the Government to conserve and protect the Great Indian Bustard in the country are as follows:

- i.      Important habitats of Great Indian Bustards are designated as National Parks/ Sanctuaries for their

better protection.

- ii. The Great Indian Bustard is listed in Schedule-I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, thereby according it the highest degree of legal protection from hunting.
- iii. A Conservation Breeding Centre at Ramdeora and a satellite conservation breeding facility with incubator, hatcher, chick rearing and housing for captive birds has been established at Sam in Jaisalmer District of Rajasthan.
- iv. Based on the proposal from India, Great Indian Bustard has been included in Appendix I of Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals. It was also the mascot of the prestigious 13th CMS Conference of Parties held in Gandhinagar giving wider publicity for the conservation of the species.

- (d) As per the information available with the Ministry, the total number of Great Indian Bustards in India is about 150 found in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, and Rajasthan.
- (e) Funding support is provided to the States for carrying out eco-development activities, organizing awareness and nature education programs, publicity and educational materials etc. to garner support of local communities for conservation of Great Indian Bustard.

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