

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4223
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2019

Protection of Wildlife Habitats

4223. SHRI JAYANT SINHA:

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

- (a) the details of the various measures taken by the Government to protect wildlife habitats of endangered and vulnerable species in the country;
- (b) whether crimes against wildlife has decreased across the country in the past three years; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)

- (a) The steps taken by the Government to protect wildlife habitats of endangered and vulnerable species in the country is given in the **Annexure**.
- (b)and (c) As per the data available with the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau, based on the information provided by the State Forest and Police authorities, the number of wildlife crime cases for the last three years are as under:

Year	Total no. of cases registered under Wildlife (Protection) Act
2016	565
2017	342
2018	388

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4223 REGARDING 'PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE HABITATS' BY SHRI JAYANT SINHA DUE FOR REPLY ON 13.12.2019.

The steps taken to protect wildlife habitats of endangered and vulnerable species in the country include:

- i. Protected Areas, viz., National Parks, Sanctuaries, Conservation Reserves and Community Reserves covering important wildlife habitats have been created all over the country under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to conserve wild animals, birds and their habitats.
- ii. Financial assistance is provided to the State/Union Territory Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats', which *inter-alia*, includes Development of Wildlife Habitats, Project Tiger and Project Elephant, for providing better protection to wildlife including birds and improvement of habitat.
- iii. A specific component of 'Recovery programmes for saving critically endangered species and habitats' is provided in the on-going Centrally Sponsored Scheme of 'Development of Wildlife Habitats' for focused conservation action on 21 identified critically endangered species including Humpback whale, Snow leopard, Hangul, Sangai deer, Marine turtle, Bustards, Edible-nest Swiftlet, Nicobar megapode, Jerdon's Courser and vultures. Financial assistance is provided to States/UT Governments for recovery programme of the critically endangered species of birds and animals.
- 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(s).
