

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 952
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2020

Animals affected by Floods

952. SHRI SHANMUGA SUNDARAM K.:

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

- (a). whether the Ministry has received any report regarding the 2015 floods in parts of Amreli Bhav Nagar area in Madhya Pradesh which resulted in wiping out of blue bulls, deers and Asiatic lions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the animals which had been wiped out as a result of the flood;
- (c) whether the State Government has requested for transfer of Asiatic lions from Gujarat to its Palpur Kuno Sanctuary of Madhya Pradesh;
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Ministry for expediting the transfer of Asiatic lions from Gujarat to Madhya Pradesh; and
- (e) whether the Palpur Kuno Sanctuary is located apart from the human settlement and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

- (a) and (b) As per the information received from the State Forest Department of Gujarat, species wise details of wild animals died during the 2015 flash floods in Amreli and Bhavnagar Districts of Gujarat are as follows:

S. No.	Name of Species	No. of animals died during 2015 floods
1.	Blue bulls	1670
2.	Deers	87
3.	Asiatic Lions	10

- (c) The State Government of Madhya Pradesh has requested for the translocation of Asiatic Lion from Gujarat to Kuno Wildlife Sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh.
- (d) The Hon'ble Supreme Court in I.A. No. 100 in Writ Petition (Civil) No.337/1995 in Centre for Environment Law, WWF-I vs Union of India & Others had vide their order dated 15th April 2013 directed the Ministry

of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to take urgent steps for re-introduction of Asiatic lion from Gir forests to Kuno in accordance with the guidelines issued by IUCN. Hon'ble Court vide the said order had also directed the Ministry to constitute an Expert Committee for this purpose.

In compliance to the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has constituted an Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Additional Director General of Forests (Wildlife), MoEF&CC. The Expert Committee had convened six meetings so far.

- (e) The State Forest Department of Madhya Pradesh has informed that all 24 villages have been relocated from the Wildlife Sanctuary. The status of Wildlife Sanctuary has also been upgraded to National Park adding an additional area of 404.0758 sq.km. That makes the area of Kuno National Park as 748.7618 sq.km.
