

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2070**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.07.2021

**Butterfly Species**

2070. SHRI P.C. MOHAN:

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

- (a) the details of butterfly species recorded in the country;
- (b) whether a number of butterfly species are extinct and endangered;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to prevent extinction of butterflies and improve their population?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) As per report of Zoological Survey of India, there are 1318 species of butterflies recorded from India.

(b) & (c) There is no species of butterfly that has been reported to be extinct from India. As per International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), there are 35 species of butterfly under Critically Endangered (CR), 43 species under Endangered (EN) and 3 species under Least Concern (LC) category, reported from India.

Further, there are 126 species of butterflies included in the Schedule I, 299 species under Schedule II and 18 species under Schedule IV of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 of Government of India.

(d) To improve the population, financial support is being provided to the State Governments towards establishment of Butterfly parks. There are National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries and Biosphere Reserves setup in various states of India with financial assistance from Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) for the conservation of rare and endangered butterfly species in India. The Zoological Survey of India has undertaken studies on butterflies as active pollinators in the Himalayan region through fundingsupport of MoEFCC under National Mission

Of Himalayan Studies for protection of rare and endangered butterfly species. Government of India has also formulated various wildlife protection acts for conservation and protection of rare and endangered species in India. There are wetlands of international importance designated as Ramsar sites and Natural Heritage Sites declared by the Government of India for creating conducive environment for rare species of animals.

India is also signatory to Convention to Biological Diversity. Apart from this, India is also signatory to many international conventions and treaties viz. Ramsar Convention, Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, Convention on Migratory Species, Conference on Parties etc. which are aimed at conservation of wildlife including butterflies in the country.

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