

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1020
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.12.2024

Rewilding of Stray Animals

1020. SHRI SUKANTA KUMAR PANIGRAHI:

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

- (a) whether the Government is exploring the feasibility of rewilding of stray animals in suitable wildlife sanctuaries with a view to providing a humane and sustainable solution for animal welfare and enhancing biodiversity and ecosystem balance in the State of Odisha;
- (b) whether the Government is considering to collaborate with animal welfare organizations and wildlife experts to develop rewilding programs, if so, the details thereof; and;
- (c) the steps proposed by the Government to provide funding for sanctuary infrastructure and animal care in the State of Odisha?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

- (a), (b) and (c) As per information received from the State of Odisha, there is no specific proposal for rewilding of stray animals in wildlife sanctuaries in Odisha. The State keeps rescued wild animals in different treatment/animal care centres for treatment and those found suitable are released to their natural habitats.

The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 empowers the Chief Wild Life Warden for capture and translocation of wild animals to alternate suitable habitats as part of scientific management of wildlife.

The Ministry provides financial assistance to States/UT's, including the State of Odisha, for conservation and protection of wildlife under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of 'Project Tiger and Elephant' and 'Development of Wildlife Habitats'. Funds are released to the States/UT's based on the Annual Plan of Operation submitted by the Chief Wild Life Warden of the State/UT.
