

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2380**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.12.2025

**Relocation of Leopards from Maharashtra**

2380. MS. PRANITI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE:  
SHRI VISHALDADA PRAKASHBAPU PATIL:

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

- (a) whether the Government has undertaken any early warning systems, visual and auditory deterrents and drones and surveillance systems to deter human leopard conflict in Maharashtra and if so, details thereof;
- (b) if not, whether the Government has a plan to undertake relocation of leopards from Western Maharashtra to Vantara without less invasive measures to precede it;
- (c) whether the Government has undertaken any research on the disadvantages of relocation of wild and rare animals on their health and survival and if so, details thereof;
- (d) the details of the Leopard Task Force proposed to be created for the relocation of leopards; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes to undertake a risk assessment exercise before considering to shift leopards from Schedule I to Schedule II category of animals under the Wildlife Protection Act and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) and (b) Protection and management of wild animals and their habitats, including management of human wildlife conflict is primarily the responsibility of the concerned States/Union Territories. As informed by the Chief Wild Life Warden, Maharashtra, the State Forest Department has adopted various measures for mitigating human leopard conflict. These include AI-enabled camera traps, AI-virtual wall, early warning systems using camera traps and alert based monitoring, auditory deterrents, Animal Intrusion Detection and Repellent System (ANIDERS) and thermal drone camera surveillance in human leopard conflict hotspots.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has not undertaken any specific research project on the disadvantages of relocation of wild and rare animals on their health and survival. Further the Ministry has not constituted any Leopard Task Force for relocation of leopards.

(e) As per the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, the Central Government may add, amend or delete the entry in schedule of the Act by notification. These changes are based on scientific assessment of the threats to the concerned species.