

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.452
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.04.2016

Census of Animals

452. SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:

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

- (a) whether any animal census has been conducted by the Government in order to estimate their population in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the census is limited to certain wild animals only and if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of the criteria adopted by the Government to select animals for census; and
- (d) the manner in which the population of wild animals is estimated in the absence of specific census?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

- (a), (b) and (c) Wild animal census of iconic species like Tiger, Elephant, Rhino and Lions are carried out by the respective State/UT Governments. However, at the national level, Tiger census is carried out periodically. As per the latest census, the estimated population of tiger, elephant, lion and rhinoceros as received from the States is given in the **Annexure**.

Tiger census is conducted nationally as the Central Government has undertaken Tiger conservation as a national flagship programme and the National Tiger Conservation Authority has been established for focused tiger conservation initiatives.

- (d) Depending on specific animals, the observation on population density are made based on the habit and habitat of various animals. Population trends are assessed based on observation of frequency of sightings, herd sizes and occurrence of indirect evidences such as, kills, droppings, foot marks etc.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a), (b) AND (c) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 452 REGARDING 'CENSUS OF ANIMALS' BY SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL DUE FOR REPLY ON 26.04.2016.

Estimated landscape level population of tiger

Name of State	Tiger population
Shivalik-Gangetic Plain Landscape complex	
Uttarakhand	340
Uttar Pradesh	117
Bihar	28
Shivalik-Gangetic	485(427-543)
Central Indian Landscape Complex and Eastern Ghats Landscape Complex	
Andhra Pradesh (including Telangana)	68
Chhattisgarh	46
Madhya Pradesh	308
Maharashtra	190
Odisha	28
Rajasthan	45
Jharkhand**	3+
Central India	688(596-780)
Western Ghats Landscape Complex	
Karnataka	406
Kerala	136
Tamil Nadu	229
Goa	5
Western Ghats	776 (685-861)
North Eastern Hills and Brahmaputra Flood Plains	
Assam	167
Arunachal Pradesh	28*
Mizoram	3+
North West Bengal	3
North East Hills and Brahmaputra	201(174-212)
Sunderbans	76(92-96)
TOTAL	2226(1945-2491)

+ -From scat DNA

*- From Camera trap data and scat DNA.

** - Much of the tiger occupied areas could not be surveyed owing to Naxal problem

Estimated Population of Rhinoceros as reported by State

Name of the State	No. of Rhinoceros (year of census)
Assam	2505 (2012)
Uttar Pradesh	30
West Bengal	229 (2013)

Estimated Population of Lion as reported by the state Government of Gujarat

Name of state	Population of Lion
Gujarat	523 (2015)

Population of wild elephants as reported by State

Sl. No.	States Elephant population	2012
	Arunachal Pradesh	890
	Assam	5620
	Meghalaya	1811 *
	Nagaland	212
	Tripura	59
	West Bengal	647
	Jharkhand	688
	Orissa	1930
	Chhattisgarh	247
	Uttarakhand	1346 *
	Uttar Pradesh	291
	Tamil Nadu	4015
	Karnataka	5648-6488
	Kerala	5942-6422
	Andhra Pradesh	41
	Maharashtra	4
		29391 - 30711

* Meghalaya and Uttarakhand has not conducted elephant census after 2007. Therefore the figure of 2007 has been maintained for 2012 as well.
