

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2007
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.12.2022

Low Conviction Rate in Tiger Trafficking

2007. SHRI P.C. MOHAN:

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

- (a) whether the incarceration rate of people suspected/confirmed in Tiger trafficking in the country is low and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to increase the rate of conviction in tiger trafficking cases?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a) No, Sir. The cases related to hunting / poaching / trafficking of wild animals including tigers are dealt by the law enforcement agencies of State and Central Government and offenders are punished as per enabling provisions of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, read with the relevant provisions of other Acts.
- (b) The steps taken by the Government to increase the conviction rate in wildlife offences including tiger trafficking cases:
 - (i) Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) is a statutory multi-disciplinary body established by the Government of India under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to combat organized crime in the country. The WCCB works in co-ordination with State Government, Central Government agencies and International agencies to curb illegal trade/ trafficking/ hunting of wild animals and their parts.
 - (ii) Training programs and workshops for officers / personnel's of Forest/ Police/ Customs/ Judiciary and other Government agencies regarding sensitization for Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 including trade, trafficking and hunting of wild animals are regularly organized, besides funding support is provided under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger for raising Special Tiger Protection Force, homeguards, ex-army personnel apart from workforce comprising of local people for protection related activities in tiger reserves.
