

[English]

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Tiger Population

*179. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA:
SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE:

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

- (a) whether project Tiger has totally failed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the population of tigers in the country, State-wise;
- (c) whether the population has declined considerably;
- (d) if so, the action taken by the Government for the conservation of Tiger habitats;
- (e) whether the Government have assessed the causes of the decline of tiger population; and

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. In fact Project Tiger is considered a successful tiger conservation programme because ever since it was launched in 1973, there has been a steady increase in country's tiger population till 1989. However, there was a decline in tiger population during 1989-93. The Statewise tiger population as per the past successive estimations are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(d) to (f). The Government has taken several measures to protect and conserve the tiger and its habitats which are given in the enclosed Statement-II. The decline in tiger population is mainly attributed to the man-animal conflict in fragmented tiger habitats outside the Protected Areas and poaching of tigers to meet the demand of tiger parts in the international market.

Statement-I*Population of Tigers in the Country*

Name of the State	Tigers				
	1972	1979	1984	1989	1993
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Tamil Nadu	033	065	097	095	097
2. Maharashtra	160	174	301	417	276
3. Kerala	060	134	089	045	057
4. West Bengal	073	296	352	353	335
5. Orissa	142	173	202	243	226
6. Karnataka	102	156	202	257	305
7. Bihar	085	110	138	157	137
8. Assam	147	300	376	376	325
9. Rajasthan	074	079	096	099	064

1	2	3	4	5	6	
10.	Madhya Pradesh	457	529	786	985	912
11.	Uttar Pradesh	262	487	698	735	465
12.	Andhra Pradesh	035	148	164	235	197
13.	Meghalaya	032	035	125	034	053
14.	Manipur	001	010	006	031	—
15.	Tripura	007	006	005	—	—
16.	Mizoram	—	065	033	018	028
17.	Nagaland	080	102	104	104	083
18.	Arunachal Pradesh	069	139	219	135	180
19.	Sikkim	—	—	002	004	002
20.	Gujarat	008	007	009	009	005
21.	Goa Daman & Diu	—	—	—	002	003
22.	Haryana	—	—	001	—	—
Total		1827	3015	4005	4334	3750

Statement-II*Steps taken by the Government of India to Protect Tiger*

- The State Governments have been advised to strengthen vigilance and intensify patrolling.
- Training and Workshops of various enforcement agencies for effective intelligence gathering and law enforcement.
- Setting up of a national Coordination Committee to control poaching and illegal trade in wildlife with enforcement agencies like Customs, Revenue Intelligence, Indo-Tibetan Border Police, Border Security Force, Central Reserve Police Force, Coast Guards, State Police, Deputy Director, Wildlife Preservation & Scientific Organisations like Zoological and Botanical Survey of India.
- To control transboundary trade, a protocol has been signed with People's Republic of China and MOU with His Majesty's Government of Nepal.
- Initiated creation of a Forum of Tiger Range Countries, *i.e.* Global Tiger Forum for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.
- Launching of public awareness programme to involve Non-Government Organisations and others

for supporting the Government in its efforts towards wildlife conservation.

7. Supporting programmes of Institutions and NGOs in exploring tiger trade routes and developing a forensic identification reference Manual for tiger parts and products.
8. Funds are being provided to the State Governments for the eco-development of the areas to reduce the biotic pressure thereon.
9. Steps are being initiated to set up site specific "Special Strike Force" in the Project Tiger areas.

New Shipping Policy

*180. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL :

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Pinto Committee has submitted its report in regard to the New Shipping Policy;

(b) if so, the details of the main recommendations made therein;

(c) the details of the recommendations out of these accepted, implemented, under implementation and diluted due to various reasons;

(d) whether the Government have considered the draft shipping policy; and

(e) if so, the main features thereof and the time by which a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. National Shipping Policy Committee (Pinto Committee) has submitted its report to the Government containing various recommendations for the development of the shipping industry. These recommendations were examined by an Empowered Committee set up by this Ministry under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Surface Transport. The recommendations of the Empowered committee are under active consideration of the Government. As a number of recommendations requires inter-departmental consultations, it is difficult to indicate a precise time-frame for a decision.

Management of National Parks and Sanctuaries

*181. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering a proposal to establish a networking system amidst different national parks and sanctuaries;

(b) if so, the details of the fresh policy initiatives for better management of national parks and sanctuaries; and

(c) the details of arrangements being made to provide adequate funds to carry out relocation and resettlement of villages, provision of communication equipment and development of infrastructure for wildlife tourism?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU) : (a) and (b): No, Sir. However, wireless communication network facility has been provided in many National Parks and Sanctuaries in the country.

(c) A statement is enclosed.

Statement

For relocation and resettlement of tribal villages from National Parks and Sanctuaries, Central assistance is being provided to the State/Union Territories under the centrally sponsored scheme on "Beneficiary Oriented Tribal Development Scheme". For development of infrastructure and communication facilities also, central assistance is being provided under the centrally sponsored scheme on "Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries", "Project Tiger", and "Project Elephant". Details of the assistance provided to the States/Union Territories during the VIII Plan are given below:

	Name of Scheme	Funds Released (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries	4950.00
2.	Project Tiger	3891.88
3.	Project Elephant	1950.44
4.	Beneficiary Oriented Tribal Development Scheme	266.00