

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1560  
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2006  
NUMBER OF TIGER RESERVES  
Fanthome Shri Francis

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

- (a) whether the number of tigers in the reserves are far below the numbers on records of different estimating agencies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof as on date, agency-wise and number-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has initiated action against filing of false data and utilisation of related financial resources; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (b) There is a report of disappearance of tigers from the Sariska Tiger Reserve, and a decline in tiger population in the Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve from 35 in 2001-02 to 26 in 2005 as reported by the State (Rajasthan). While no further reports of decline in tiger population in tiger reserves has been received from States, the ongoing All India Estimation of tiger, copredators and prey animals using the refined methodology approved by the Tiger Task Force, would provide the factual status of tiger population in the country including National Parks, Sanctuaries and Tiger Reserves.

(c) & (d) The Tiger reserves have been assessed by a panel of independent experts based on 45 parameters using the format of the World Commission on Protected Areas of the International Union for Conservation of Native and Natural Resources (IUCN). The assessment reports have been peer reviewed by the IUCN, which would be placed before the Parliament.