

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1418

ANSWERED ON:22.08.2007

NEW TIGER RESERVES

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Pallani Shamy Shri K.C .;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

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

- (a) whether the Government has given approval for eight new tiger reserves in different States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the concerned State Governments have submitted any plan in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether any meeting has been held in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and detailed strategy chalked by the Government in consultation with State Governments in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY)

(a) to (b) Yes Sir. "In principle approval" has been accorded for declaring eight new tiger reserves spread over seven States, based on proposals received and as recommended by the Steering Committee of the Project Tiger in its 37th meeting held on 23-01-2003. Details are at Annexure-I.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

(e) to (f) Yes Sir. This issue, interalia, was discussed with State officials during the all India meeting of Field Directors held at Sawai Madhopur on 27th and 28th June, 2007, and further in a national workshop organized at the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, on 26th and 27th July, 2007. The strategy involves preparation of a Tiger Conservation Plan for each tiger reserve as required in the recent amendments to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, made in 2006, to ensure site specific habitat inputs for fostering a viable population of tigers, co-predators and prey animals in the "core area", apart from inputs for eliciting support of local people in the "buffer area" delineated around the core, through ecodevelopment and sectoral integration.