

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1573
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2009
TRIPARTITE MOU FOR TIGER PROTECTION
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to sign tripartite agreement with the State Governments and Director Project Tiger, in order to share responsibilities and better utilization of funds for tiger protection;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which Memorandum of Understanding is likely to be signed;
- (c) whether the Union Government also proposes to review the resettlement and rehabilitation of forest-based Van Gujjar and other villagers from the core areas;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Union Government further proposes to involve the local population in protecting the biodiversity and habitation of the jungles; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. A format for a tripartite Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Environment and Forests (acting through the National Tiger Conservation Authority), State Governments and the Field Director of the Tiger Reserve has been approved, prescribing respective responsibilities and reciprocal commitments linked to fund flows for ensuring effective tiger conservation in the country. The said MOU would be implemented this year while providing Central assistance to tiger States under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger.

(c) & (d) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger guidelines has been revised in 2008 for strengthening tiger conservation, which apart from ongoing activities, inter alia, includes funding support to States for enhanced village relocation/rehabilitation package for people living in the core or critical tiger habitats, from the earlier package of Rs. 1 lakh/family to an enhanced package of Rs. 10 lakhs/family.

(e) & (f) Central assistance under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger is provided to tiger States for involving the local people in protection and antipoaching operations. The initiatives taken by the Government of India for strengthening tiger conservation are at Annexure-I.