

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4809
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2010
DEATH OF TIGERS IN SARISKA
Mutterwar Shri Vilas Baburao

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

- (a) whether any investigation has been conducted into the death of 28 tigers in Sariska Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan in 2005;
- (b) if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to check death of tigers in this reserve?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) was mandated to undertake an investigation on disappearance of tigers from the Sariska Tiger Reserve of Rajasthan. The Special Investigation Team of the Central Bureau of Investigation, in its enquiry report, had indicated that there is no evidence of the presence of tiger in Sariska and the entire population seems to have become extinct primarily because of poaching. It has also been stated that since July, 2002, at least 2-3 organised networks of poachers were involved in poaching of tigers and leopards in the tiger reserve. As reported by the State, the short-term and long-term recommendations of the said report, given at Annexure-I, have been acted upon. The Special Investigation Team has submitted its enquiry report to the Government.

(c) The tigers translocated to Sariska are intensively monitored using radio telemetry through a technical team of the Wildlife Institute of India, besides field staff. Central assistance, under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger is provided to the State for antipoaching operations/patrolling, apart from village relocation for making the core/critical tiger habitat inviolate. The milestone initiatives taken by the Government of India for strengthening tiger conservation are at Annexure-II.