GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:616 ANSWERED ON:08.07.2009 FUNDS FOR PROTECTION OF TIGERS Sidhu Shri Navjot Singh

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

- (a) the details of funds allocated and utilised therefrom for protection of tigers in the country during the last three years and the current year, year-wise;
- (b) whether funds meant for protection of tigers are being properly utilised for the purpose;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken / proposed to be taken by the Government to monitor the utilization of funds for the purpose?

Answer

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

- (a) The details of funding support allocated to States during the last three years and the current year for tiger conservation and their utilization, as reported by them, are at Annexure-I.
- (b)to (d) Central Assistance to States for tiger conservation is provided on receipt of a Memorandum of Understanding in a prescribed format from States, indicating commitments to ensure proper use of funds as per guidelines. Further, Utilisation Certificates in prescribed formats are obtained regarding the expenditure, duly countersigned by the Chief Wildlife of respective tiger States. The accounts are also subjected to regular Audit by respective Accountant Generals. The Ministry of Environment and Forests conducts an independent assessment of tiger reserves on the impact of investments made.