

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2338
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2012
SETTING UP OF TIGER PROTECTION FORCE
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken notice of the incidents of the detection of tiger carcasses in the protected areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the present condition of security and protection to the national animal in the country, State-wise including Uttar Pradesh;
- (c) whether special tiger protection force has been constituted for protecting the tigers in the State in compliance with the guidelines of National Tiger Conservation Authority;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons for the apathy towards the survival and protection of tigers; and
- (e) the corrective measures proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure security to the national animal tiger?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) & (b) The details of tiger mortality during the current year, as reported by States are at Annexure-I. Under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger, funding assistance is provided to States for protection and management of tiger reserves. The details of funding assistance provided during XI Plan period and current year are at Annexure-II. The country level tiger population, estimated once in every four years using the refined methodology, has shown an increasing trend with a population estimate of 1706, lower and upper limits being 1520 and 1909 respectively in the recent all India estimation (2010), as compared to the last country level estimation of 2006, with an estimate of 1411, lower and upper limits being 1165 and 1657 respectively. The landscape-wise details of tiger estimation in the country for the years 2006 and 2010 are at Annexure-III.

(c) & (d) Under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger, 100% central assistance is provided to tiger States for raising, arming and deploying the Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF) in sensitive tiger reserves. The details of central assistance provided to States in this regard are at Annexure-IV. As reported by States, the Special Tiger Protection Force has been constituted in Bandipur Tiger Reserve (Karnataka), Pench Tiger Reserve (Maharashtra) and Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve (Maharashtra). Based on tiger abundance and vulnerability, 13 Tiger Reserves in the country have been identified for raising, arming and deploying the Special Tiger Protection Force, which, inter alia includes the Dudhwa Tiger Reserve in Uttar Pradesh.

(e) The milestone initiatives taken by the Government of India to protect and foster tiger conservation are at Annexure-V.