

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1379
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2015
SPECIAL TIGER PROTECTION FORCE
Chudasama Shri Rajeshbhai Naranbhai

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

- (a) whether the Government had given one time grant a few years back to the National Tiger Conservation Authority for raising Special Tiger Protection Force in sensitive tiger reserves across the country:
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the progress made so far in this regard. State-wise:
- (c) whether the said funds has been utilised: and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the action taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) & (b) Yes Sir. The policy initiatives announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech of the 29th February, 2008, inter alia, contains action points relating to tiger protection Based on the one time grant of Rs. 50.00 crore provided to the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) for raising, arming and deploying a Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF), the proposal for the said force has been approved by the competent authority for 13 sensitive tiger reserves, namely Ranthambhore (Rajasthan). Dudhwa (Uttar Pradesh). Corbett (Uttarakhand). Bandipur (Karnataka). Kanha (Madhya Pradesh). Bandhavgarh (Madhya Pradesh). Pencil (Madhya Pradesh), Fadoba-Andhari (Maharashtra). Pench (Maharashtra), Similipal (Odisha). Kaziranga (Assam), Pakke (Arunachal Pradesh) and Mudumalai (Tamil Nadu). Out of the aforesaid tiger reserves, the Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF) has been raised, armed and deployed in 4 tiger reserves namely. Bandipur (Karnataka). Pench and Fadoba-Andhari (Maharashtra) and Similipal (Odisha). with 100% central assistance under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger.

Besides this, in-principle approval has been accorded for raising, arming and deploying the Special Tiger Protection Force in Nawgaoan-Nagzira and Melghat (Maharashtra). Kawal and Amrabad (Telangana) Tiger Reserves. Process is underway for rest of the States.

(c)&(d) Yes Sir. Under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger, fund allocation is done for the same, based on the APO submitted by the concerned tiger reserves. The details are at Annexure-1.