

**Statement-III****Steps taken by the Government of India to Protect Tiger**

1. The State Governments have been advised to strengthen vigilance and intensify patrolling.
2. Training and Workshops of various enforcement agencies for effective intelligence gathering and law enforcement.
3. Setting up of a National Coordination Committee to control poaching and illegal trade in wildlife with enforcement agencies like Customs, Revenue Intelligence, Indo-Tibbetan Border Police, Border Security Force, Central Reserve Police Force, Coast Guards, State Police, Deputy Director, Wildlife Preservation & Scientific Organisations like Zoological and Botanical Survey of India.
4. To control transboundary trade, a protocol has been signed with People's Republic of China and a MOU with His Majesty's Government of Nepal.
5. Initiated creation of a Forum of Tiger Range Countries, i.e. Global Tiger Forum for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.
6. Launching of public awareness programme to involve Non-Governmental Organisations and others for supporting the Government in the efforts towards wildlife conservation.
7. Supporting programmes of Institutions and NGOs in exploring tiger trade routes and developing a forensic identification reference Manual for tiger parts and products.
8. Funds are being provided to the State Governments for the ecodevelopment of the areas to reduce the biotic pressure thereon.
9. Steps are being initiated to set up site specific "Special Strike Force" in the Project Tiger areas.

**Consultancy Firms**

1342. SHRI SUNIL KHAN :  
SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY :  
SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADHYAY :

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of foreign consultancy firms operating in India during 1997-98;

(b) the total amount of earning made by them during the last years;

(c) whether the foreign consultancy firms off load part of their jobs to the Indian consultancy firms; and

(d) if so, the impact of this development on Indian consultancy agencies?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DUJAL) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Reconstitution of ICSSR**

1343. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCIINDIA :  
SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have lately reconstituted the Indian Council of Social Science Research; and

(b) if so, the composition of the reconstituted council and the criteria adopted therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir. It has been partly reconstituted.

(b) According to Rule 3 of Memorandum of Association and Rules of Indian Council of Social Science Research, eighteen Social Scientists are nominated by the Government of India as members of the Council. The term of members is three years. As the terms of twelve such members had ended, Government nominated twelve social scientists on September 22, 1998.

**Mumbai Port Trust Regulations**

1344. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the ship breakers are flouting Mumbai Port Trust regulations and a large number of old ships are stationed at Mumbai Port as appearing in the *Economic Times*, dated Oct. 5, 1998;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the steps contemplated by the Government to keep the Mumbai ship-breaking yard cleared from the scrapped materials etc.?