

tional spacecraft which will have much larger capacity than the INSAT-1 spacecraft. The INSAT-II Test spacecraft are identical in all respects to the operational INSAT-2 spacecraft. While no operational dependence is planned on the first INSAT-II Test Spacecraft, it is expected that both the INSAT-II Test Spacecraft will provide operational service and will play an important role in the transition from INSAT-1 space-segment.

(c) INSAT-I series of satellites and transponders leased from other satellite systems are providing the services. INSAT-ID scheduled for launch in June 1990 is expected to replace INSAT-IB, which is still being used for providing vital services.

[English]

Tigers of West Champaran, Bihar

6845. SHRI DHARMESH PRASAD VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether in West Champaran Tiger Reserve, forest cover area is sufficient to home the one hundred tigers living there and if not, the steps taken in this regard,

(b) whether there have been incidents of tigers leaving their natural habitat and entering human habitat 20 to 50 kilometers away from forests and attacking and killing human beings over the past 5 years and

(c) if so, what measures and strategies the Government propose to adopt to contain tigers of West Champaran, Bihar in their natural habitat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) According to the 1989 census report received from the State Government, there are 81 tigers in the 910.5 Sq. Kms forests of West

Champaran district of Bihar. The forest area is sufficient to sustain the existing tiger population.

(b) The Field Director, Valmiki Tiger Reserve has informed that during the past five years, there have been two incidents of tigers leaving their natural habitat and entering human habitation. On 8.4.1986, a tiger killed a boy of three years in a village Sabeya in district West Champaran, which is 15Kms away from forests. And on 10.11.1987, two people were killed near village Balthar, which is about 40 Kms away from forests.

(c) The occasional straying of tigers from the forest area is mainly due to the disturbance caused in the natural habitat of tigers. Activities like extradiation of boulders from the forest area and unregulated human movement have been the main disturbing factors. The establishment of Valmiki Tiger Reserve over 840.26 Sq.Kms of these forests will restrict such disturbances and natural habitat of wild animals including tigers will be restored. This is expected to stop the straying of tigers from the forests.

High Power Committee for Sports

6846. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation for setting up of a high power committee with ex-Olympions and other experts to formulate the formation of play and playing system, coaching procedures, improvement of Stamina and physical fitness and food habits; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN