

**Monitoring and maintenance of the forests**

2435. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that forest department is unable to monitor and maintain the forest due to lack of roads in and around the forest;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to amend the Forest Act for provision of better facilities for monitoring and maintenance of the forest; and

(c) if so, by when does Government propose to bring in the amendment in the Forest Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) The monitoring and maintenance of forests is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State/ Union Territory Government. The Ministry has not received any report that Forest Departments are unable to monitor and maintain the forests due to lack of roads.

(b) and (c) There is no proposal to amend the Forest Act for provision of better facilities for monitoring and maintenance of the forests. However, under various Centrally Sponsored/Centre Sector Schemes, financial assistance is provided to supplement the efforts of Forest Departments for protection and conservation of the forests.

**Tiger deaths**

2436. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tiger deaths reported inside and outside tiger reserves in the last three years, along with reasons for deaths; and

(b) whether Government has taken measures to effectively address habitat destruction, human-tiger conflicts and poaching outside reserves and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) The details of tiger deaths (classified as cases of confirmed poaching including seizure, cases under scrutiny and those due to natural and other causes), as reported by States, inside and outside tiger reserves during the last three years, are given in the the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) The Government of India has taken several steps to control poaching, habitat destruction and human-tiger conflicts, and the details are given in the Statement-II (*See below*). Several milestone initiatives have been taken by the Government of India for protection and conservation of tigers and other wild animals in the country and the details are given in the Statement-III (*See below*).