

the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) are working with state governments to implement the NAPCC within budgetary constraints. The missions under NAPCC are under various stages of implementation by Nodal Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India. State/UT Governments have also prepared their State Action Plans on Climate Change in line with the objectives of the NAPCC addressing state's specific issues.

Latest study report on tiger population

346. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the latest study on tiger population in India released by Government recently has recorded an increase in tiger population by more than 30 per cent during the last four years;

(b) whether unchecked development of tourism and other industries even inside designated zones has restricted space and food for these endangered species; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to create more grasslands and water storage in forest areas so that these endangered animals can be protected and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Government of India through the National Tiger Conservation Authority has notified comprehensive guidelines, namely, 'The National Tiger Conservation Authority (Normative Standards for Tourism activities and Project Tiger) Guidelines, 2012' on 15th October, 2012, under section 380-1(c) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, which restricts use of only 20% of core / critical tiger habitat of the tiger reserve for the purpose of tourism. It also prohibits opening of new areas for tourism besides providing a number of normative standards. The same is available in public domain at www.projecttiger.nic.in. No report has been received from any of the States regarding unchecked development of tourism and other industries inside the areas designated for tourism.

(c) Funding assistance is provided to the tiger reserves under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger based on their Annual Plan of Operation for habitat management and protection, which *inter-alia*, includes creation of grasslands and water availability.