

1	2	3	4
Meghalaya	22429	9,496	42.34
Mizoram	21081	16,717	79.30
Nagaland	16579	9,222	55.62
Orissa	155707	58,136	37.34
Punjab	50362	3,084	6.12
Rajasthan	342239	32,737	9.57
Sikkim	7096	5,841	82.31
Tamil Nadu	130058	22,877	17.59
Tripura	10486	6,294	60.02
Uttar Pradesh	240928	16,583	6.88
Uttarakhand	53483	34,651	64.79
West Bengal	88752	11,879	13.38
Andaman and Nicobar Island	8249	7,171	86.93
Chandigarh	114	35	30.70
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	491	204	41.55
Daman and Diu	112	8	7.38
Lakshadweep	32	0	0.00
Puducherry	480	13	2.71
GRAND TOTAL	3287263	771,821	23.48

Delay in setting up of Special Tiger Protection Force

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a delay in setting up of Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF), a specialized force to save tigers in critical areas;

(b) if so, the number of tiger reserves in the country and how many tiger reserves have set up Special Tiger Protection Force so far; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to set up this special force for the rest of the tiger reserves in the country and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Based on the recommendations of the Tiger Task Force, it was decided that initially the Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF) would be deployed in 13 sensitive tiger reserves of the country, having considerable source population of tigers, namely Ranthambhore (Rajasthan), Dudhwa (Uttar Pradesh), Corbett (Uttarakhand), Bandipur (Karnataka), Kanha (Madhya Pradesh), Bandhavgarh (Madhya Pradesh), Pench (Madhya Pradesh), Tadoba-Andhari (Maharashtra), Pench (Maharashtra), Similipal (Odisha), Kaziranga (Assam), Pakke (Arunachal Pradesh) and Mudumalai (Tamil Nadu) tiger reserves. Against a total of 47 tiger reserves at present and aforesaid 13 tiger reserves, STPF has been raised, armed and deployed in 4 tiger reserves, namely, Bandipur (Karnataka), Tadoba-Andhari and Pench (Maharashtra) and Similipal (Odisha).

(c) The concerned States have been reminded constantly in this regard and in-principle approval has been accorded for raising, arming and deploying the Special Tiger Protection Force in Nawegoan-Nagzira and Melghat (Maharashtra), Kawal and Amrabad [erstwhile Nagarjunasagar Srisailem Tiger Reserve portion] (Telangana)] Tiger Reserves.

Assistance for increasing the forest cover on hilly terrain

353. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has provided any financial and logistic assistance for increasing the forest cover in hilly terrain districts of country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the list of such districts in the country;

(c) whether it is a fact that the forest cover in the country are in decrease due to acute water shortage and environmental degradation by human agencies;

(d) the remedial steps taken by Government to provide adequate technological and financial support to increase the forest cover of these districts; and

(e) the total funds allocated to Tamil Nadu in the last three years in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF & CC) is implementing a