

(b) Keeping in view that four new regional offices of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change have recently been opened, as of now the Ministry is not considering any proposal to open a regional office at Jaipur.

#### **Judgements and orders of NGT**

1245. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any analysis of judgements and orders of NGT has been made and if so, the result of the study; and

(b) whether the study came to the conclusion that no decision of NGT was irrational and failed to cure any environmental evil or wake up the pollution control boards, if so, the summary of the analysis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, the administrative Ministry of the National Green Tribunal (NGT), has not made any analysis or study of judgements and orders of NGT.

#### **Sulphur dioxide emission from thermal plants**

1246. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of sulphur dioxide emission from thermal plants in India as compared to the total sulphur dioxide by all industries in India; and

(b) the percentage of mercury emission from all the power plants in India as compared to emission from all the power plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Status of poaching of tigers**

1247. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the status of poaching of tigers in the country and how far has it been controlled;

(b) whether all the tiger reserves in the country have been provided special force personnel to control such a loss and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the tribals in such reserves are proposed to be made of the special force and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) The Government of India has taken a number of steps for protection of tigers, which *inter-alia* addresses the issue of poaching also, and the details are at given in Statement-I (*See* below). By implementing those steps through the field formations of different tiger States, the same has been controlled significantly. The details of poaching of tigers in the country, as reported by States, during last three years are given in Statement-II (*See* below).

(b) The Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF) has been made operational in the States of Karnataka (Bandipur), Maharashtra (Pench and Tadoba-Andhari) and Odisha (Similipal), with 100% Central Assistance under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger. In-principle approval has been accorded for creation of the said force in Nawegoan-Nagzira, Melghat (Maharashtra), Kawal and Amrabad (*erstwhile* Nagarjunasagar Srisailem Tiger Reserve Portion) Tiger Reserves (Telangana).

(c) The dispensation under Project Tiger for creating the Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF) on the lines of India Reserve Battalion has two options: (i) STPF comprising of police personnel, and (ii) STPF comprising of forest personnel. The guidelines provide for composition of the force (112 personnel), structure of a company, overall command and control, recruitment and related features which include training and deployment. In the forest option, 30% of the Special Tiger Guards would comprise of local forest dwelling people, which *inter-alia* includes tribals also, and the company would be recruited from the local district within which the tiger reserve is located. There is a provision for Memorandum of Understanding in the context which, *inter-alia*, stipulates that the recruitment of personnel would be done through a Selection Board constituted by the State which includes a nominee of the National Tiger Conservation Authority.

#### ***Statement-I***

Steps taken by the Government of India for protection of tigers, *inter-alia* addressing the issue of poaching are as below :

- Providing assistance to States under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger for protection infrastructure and antipoaching operations (including deployment of Tiger Protection Force and Special Tiger Protection Force)
- Providing grant through NTCA for patrolling in tiger rich sensitive forest areas outside Tiger Reserves

- Alerting the States as and when required
- Transmitting backward/forward linkages of information relating to poachers
- Advising the States for combing forest floor to check snares/traps
- Performing supervisory field visits through the National Tiger Conservation Authority and its regional offices
- Using information technology for improved surveillance (e-Eye System) using thermal cameras launched in Corbett (Uttarakhand) and extended to Ratapani (Madhya Pradesh) and Kaziranga (Assam) Tiger Reserves
- Launching tiger reserve level monitoring using camera trap to keep a photo ID database of individual tigers
- Preparing a national database of individual tiger photo captures to establish linkage with body parts seized or dead tigers
- Assisting States to refine protection oriented monitoring through Monitoring System for Tiger's Intensive Protection and Ecological Status (M-STriPES)
- Assisting States to deploy local workforce in a big way for protection to complement the efforts of field staff [In all, approximately 24 lakh mandays are generated annually with 50% Central Assistance amounting to around ₹ 24 crores (excluding matching 50% share given by States) under Project Tiger. Many local tribes constitute such local workforce (besides non-tribals), eg. Baigas, Gonds in Madhya Pradesh, Gonds in Maharashtra, Chenchus in Andhra Pradesh, Sholigas in Karnataka, Gujjars in Uttarakhand and Irulas in Tamil Nadu to name a few. The deployment of such local tribals has been fostered/encouraged in the last two years].
- Initiative taken for collaboration of National Tiger Conservation Authority and Wildlife Crime Control Bureau towards an online tiger/wildlife crime tracking/reporting system in Tiger Reserves.

***Statement-II***

*Details of poaching of tigers in the country, as reported by States,  
during last three years*

Sl.No.	Name of State	Inside Tiger Reserve	Outside Tiger Reserve
		Poaching Including seizure	
1	2	3	4
<b>Year 2012</b>			
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	1
2	Assam	2	1

1	2	3	4
3.	Bihar	0	0
4.	Chhattisgarh	0	1
5.	Haryana	0	1
6.	Karnataka	2	6
7.	Kerala	1	1
8.	Madhya Pradesh	0	7
9.	Maharashtra	2	5
10.	Odisha	1	0
11.	Rajasthan	1	0
12.	Tamil Nadu	2	1
13.	Uttar Pradesh	0	4
14.	Uttarakhand	1	5
15.	West Bengal	0	1
TOTAL		12	34
GRAND TOTAL		46	

**Year 2013**

1.	Assam	1	2
2.	Karnataka	1	2
3.	Kerala	0	2
4.	Madhya Pradesh	1	1
5.	Maharashtra	3	1
6.	Odisha	0	0
7.	Tamil Nadu	0	0
8.	Uttarakhand	0	1
9.	Uttar Pradesh	2	1
10.	West Bengal	0	0

1	2	3	4
11.	Rajasthan	0	0
TOTAL		8	10
GRAND TOTAL		18	

*Note:* 18 Kg. approximately tiger bones were seized in Delhi (07.09.2013) by a team of Forest Department Officials from Maharashtra, by the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau and Delhi Police.

#### **Year 2014**

Sl.No.	Name of State	Inside Tiger Reserve	Outside Tiger Reserve
		Poaching	Including seizure
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	2
2.	Madhya Pradesh	1	0
3.	Maharashtra	0	3
4.	Tamil Nadu	0	0
5.	Assam	0	0
6.	Bihar	0	0
7.	Uttarakhand	2	0
8.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0
9.	Kerala	0	0
10.	Chhattisgarh	0	2
11.	Karnataka	0	0
12.	Telangana	0	0
TOTAL		3	7
GRAND TOTAL		10	

#### **Adverse impacts of scrapping of RRZs on environments**

1248. SHRI RAJ BABBAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state :—

(a) whether a number of States have put in place River Regulation Zone (RRZs) in their States, if so, the salient features of this Regulation;