

of Wildlife Habitats' for providing better protection to wildlife including lions and improvement of its habitat.

- (ii) A scheme of construction of parapet walls around open wells in revenue area is being implemented by the State Government. Under this scheme 50% assistance is paid to the farm owner for constructing parapet wall.
- (iii) Construction of chain-linked wire fencing on both sides of accident prone part of railway track in Amreli district for avoiding lion deaths while crossing railway track.
- (iv) Construction of safe under and over passes on railway track.
- (v) Construction of speed breakers on road and display of sign boards on road etc.
- (vi) Awareness among public is being created through public meetings, Nature Education Camp, Wildlife Week Celebration, Eco-clubs activities to educate people for conservation of lions.
- (vii) Effective and efficient rescue works of injured animals in being done for saving the lions.
- (viii) Modernized hospital facilities have also been established for treatment of sick and injured lions.

Tigers and panthers in Panna Tiger Reserve

1658. DR . CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether tiger and panthers have become extinct from Panna Tiger Reserve;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) the annual grant provided for maintenance of the tiger reserve; and
- (d) the corrective steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) No, Sir. On the contrary, a total of 18 tigers and 24 leopards are present in Panna Tiger Reserve. Madhya Pradesh as per Status of tigers, co-predators and prey in India, 2014.

- (b) Question does not arise.

(c) The annual funding allocation under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger (CSS-PT) to Panna Tiger Reserve during last three years is given in the Statement (*See* below).

- (d) Question does not arise.

Statement

*National Tiger Conservation Authority
Annual Grant (Central share) provided for maintenance of Panna
Tiger Reserve during 2013-14 to 2015-16 under Centrally
Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger (CSS-PT).*

Sl. No.	Tiger Reserve	State	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
1.	Panna Tiger Reserve	Madhya Pradesh	358.3480	348.477	318.046
	TOTAL		358.3480	348.477	318.046

Target of forest and tree cover

†1659. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of target fixed at national level for forest and tree cover out of the total land in the country under the National Forest Policy;

(b) the details of forest and tree cover as on date, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether Government has received suggestions from various sections of the society regarding decreasing forest and tree cover in the country and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of steps being taken to control it and to enhance the impact of National Forest Policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) As per the National Forest Policy 1988, the national goal is to have minimum of one-third of the total land area of the country under forest or tree cover.

(b) As per India State of Forest Report (ISFR) - 2015, the total forest and tree cover in the country is 7,94,245 sq.km constituting 24.16% of the total geographic area. Of this forest cover is 7,01,673 sq.km. (21.34%) and tree cover (outside the forest area) is 92,572 sq.km (2.82%). The States/UT-wise forest cover and tree cover details are given in the Statement-I and Statement-II respectively (*See* below).

(c) and (d) As per ISFR-2015, there is a net increase of 3775 square kilometers in the forest cover of the country as compared to 2013. To achieve the target of forest cover under the National Forest Policy, Afforestation programs has been taken up under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as National Afforestation

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.