

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 35
ANSWERED ON 19.07.2021

Deployment of STPF in Sahyadri Tiger Reserve

35. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether only four tiger reserves, excluding Sahyadri Tiger Reserve, in Maharashtra, have been deployed with Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF);
- (b) whether the proposal to deploy STPF at Sahyadri Tiger Reserve pending with National Tiger Conservation Authority has resulted in poor protection of tigers;
- (c) the immediate arrangements Government proposes to make for protection and an increase in the population of tigers in Sahyadri Tiger Reserve pending the proposal for deployment of STPF; and
- (d) whether Government has taken any steps to increase the density of herbivorous and reduce instances of human-animal conflict within the Sahyadri Tiger Reserve?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a), (b) & (c) Yes Sir. The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) has given 'in-principle' approval for deployment of Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF) in Sahyadri Tiger Reserve and a detailed proposal is awaited from the State. Funding support, through the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger besides technical guidance, is being provided to Sahyadri Tiger Reserve for protection and conservation of tigers.
- (d) The proposal of Government of Maharashtra for augmenting the prey base in Sahyadri Tiger Reserve has been approved. Funding assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger is provided for protection and conservation of wildlife inter alia including human-wildlife interface and mitigation issues.
