

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 62
TO BE ANSWERED ON. 20.07.2023

Special training for tiger conservation

62. SMT. MAHUA MAJI:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of tigers is almost negligible/dwindling fast at present despite the existence of institutions like Palamu Tiger Reserve and Jharkhand being a forest-dominated State where tigers have been in abundance earlier;
- (b) the reasons behind the dwindling number of tigers despite the formation of Tiger Protection Force by the Central Government;
- (c) whether Government is considering to give special training to the Tiger Protection Force personnel associated with the management; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

- (a) & (b) No Sir. The quadrennial All India Tiger Estimation Exercise which assesses the Status of Tigers, Co-predators and Prey using robust scientific methodology, has shown that the tiger number has increased as per estimation done in 2018, with an estimated number of 2967 (range 2603-3346) as compared to 2014 estimation of 2226 (range 1945-2491). The tiger population is increasing at a rate of 6% per annum in India when consistently sampled areas are compared. As per the latest All India Tiger Estimation summary report, 3167 is the minimum number of tigers in India. The tiger occupancy has declined in the State of Jharkhand and management activities like prey augmentation, habitat restoration, and protection are ongoing for revival of Palamau Tiger Reserve in Jharkhand.
- (c) & (d) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats, provision exists for 60% central assistance to tiger States for raising, arming and deploying a Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF). Funding support, through the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger & Elephant besides technical guidance, is provided to Tiger Reserves for protection and conservation of tigers. Specialized training is provided to the members of Special Tiger Protection Force during the induction phase apart from that regular training and capacity building programs are organised from time to time.
