

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 1160
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.12.2024

Population of tigers in the country

1160 SHRI ASHOKRAO SHANKARRAO CHAVAN:

Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether tiger population in country has shown a remarkable growth during last few years;
- (b) if so, total number of tigers increased during the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) whether increased population of tigers in the country has given rise to incidents of human tiger conflicts and if so, details thereof;
- (d) whether Government has taken any measures to prevent human tiger conflicts in the country and if so, details thereof;
- (e) whether with the increase in number of tigers, the cases of tiger poaching is also on rise in the country; and
- (f) if so, number of tigers killed during last three years, State-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

- (a) & (b) The tiger population has increased as per the All India Tiger Estimation done in 2022, with an estimated number of 3682 (range 3167-3925) as compared to the 2018 estimation of 2967 (range 2603-3346) and 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. The details of tiger estimation pertaining to tiger landscapes in the country, for the years 2006, 2010, 2014, 2018 and 2022 is at **Annexure-I**.
- (c) & (d) The Government of India, through the National Tiger Conservation Authority, has advocated a three pronged strategy to manage human-wildlife negative interactions as follows:-
 - (i) **Material and logistical support:** Funding support through the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger, is provided to tiger reserves for acquiring capacity in terms of infrastructure and material, to deal with tigers dispersing out of source areas. These are solicited by tiger reserves through an Annual Plan of Operation (APO) every year which stems out from an overarching Tiger Conservation Plan (TCP), mandated under Section 38 V of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. *Inter alia*, activities

such as payment of ex-gratia and compensation, periodic awareness campaigns to sensitize, guide and advise the general populace on man-animal conflict, dissemination of information through various forms of media, procurement of immobilization equipment, drugs, training and capacity building of forest staff to deal with conflict events are generally solicited.

- (ii) **Restricting habitat interventions:** Based on the carrying capacity of tigers in a tiger reserve, habitat interventions are restricted through an overarching TCP. In case tiger numbers are at carrying capacity levels, it is advised that habitat interventions should be limited so that there is no excessive spill over of wildlife including tigers thereby minimizing man-animal conflict. Further, in buffer areas around tiger reserves, habitat interventions are restricted such that they are sub-optimal vis-à-vis the core/critical tiger habitat areas, judicious enough to facilitate dispersal to other rich habitat areas only.
- (iii) **Standard Operating Procedure (SOPs):** The National Tiger Conservation Authority has issued following three SOPs to deal with human-animal conflict, which are available in public domain:
 - i. To deal with emergency arising due to straying of tigers in human dominated landscapes
 - ii. To deal with tiger depredation on livestock
 - iii. For active management towards rehabilitation of tigers from source areas at the landscape level.

The three SOPs *inter alia* include the issue of managing dispersing tigers, managing livestock kills so as to reduce conflict as well as relocating tigers from source areas to areas where density of tiger is low, so that conflict in rich source areas does not occur.

Also as per Tiger Conservation Plans need based and site-specific management interventions are undertaken by the tiger reserves for improving the quality of wildlife habitat and funding support for these activities is provided under the Project Tiger Component of the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats.

- (e) & (f) As reported by States, the details of tigers lost due to confirmed unnatural causes (poaching, seizures and unnatural not poaching) during last three years and current year are at **Annexure-II**.

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF THE OF THE
RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1160 ON POPULATION OF
TIGERS IN THE COUNTRY DUE FOR REPLY ON 05.12.2024**

**Details of tiger estimation pertaining to tiger landscapes in the country,
for the years 2006, 2010, 2014, 2018 and 2022 (As per All India Tiger Estimation Reports)**

State	Tiger Population				
	2006	2010	2014	2018	2022
<i>Shivalik-Gangetic Plain Landscape Complex</i>					
Uttarakhand	178	227	340	442	560
Uttar Pradesh	109	118	117	173	205
Bihar	10	8	28	31	54
Shivalik Gangetic	297	353	485	646	819
<i>Central Indian Landscape Complex and Eastern Ghats Landscape Complex</i>					
Andhra Pradesh	95	72	68	48	63
Telangana	-	-	-	26	21
Chhattisgarh	26	26	46	19	17
Madhya Pradesh	300	257	308	526	785
Maharashtra	103	169	190	312	444
Odisha	45	32	28	28	20
Rajasthan	32	36	45	69	88
Jharkhand	-	10	3	5	1
Central India	601	601	688	1033	1439
<i>Western Ghats Landscape Complex</i>					
Karnataka	290	300	406	524	563
Kerala	46	71	136	190	213
Tamil Nadu	76	163	229	264	306
Goa	-	-	5	3	5
Western Ghats	412	534	776	981	1087
<i>North Eastern Hills and Brahmaputra Flood Plains</i>					
Assam	70	143	167	190	229
Arunachal Pradesh	14	-	28	29	9
Mizoram	6	5	3	0	0
Nagaland	-	-	-	0	0
Northern West Bengal	10	-	3	0	2
North East Hills, and Brahmaputra	100	148	201	219	236
<i>Sunderbans</i>	-	70	76	88	101
TOTAL	1411	1706	2226	2967	3682

Annexure-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (e) & (f) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1160 ON POPULATION OF TIGERS IN THE COUNTRY DUE FOR REPLY ON 05.12.2024

Details of tiger lost due to confirmed unnatural causes (poaching, seizures and unnatural not poaching) during last three years and current, State-wise

State	2021			2022			2023			2024 (as on 20.11.2024)		
	P	S	UNP	P	S	UNP	P	S	UNP	P	S	UNP
Andhra Pradesh	-	-	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Assam	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	3	-	-	-	-
Bihar	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
Chhattisgarh	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Delhi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Goa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gujarat	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Haryana	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jharkhand	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Karnataka	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kerala	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	1	-	-	-
Madhya Pradesh	3	-	1	5	1	1	5	-	3	1	-	-
Maharashtra	5	-	2	2	-	2	1	-	3	-	-	-
Nagaland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Odisha	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rajasthan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tamil Nadu	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	1	-	-	-
Telangana	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Uttar Pradesh	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Uttarakhand	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-
West Bengal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	8	1	11	12	2	11	12	4	9	1	0	0

P – Poaching
S – Seizure
UNP – Unnatural not poaching
