

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 21.12.2009
ANSWERED ON
EXTINCTION OF TIGERS FROM PANNA TIGER RESERVE .

3436

SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA

Will the Minister of COAL AND ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether according to a recent census of tiger population, the tigers in Panna Tiger Reserve has gone extinct;
- (b) when the last census was undertaken in the Reserve and what was the tiger population as per the census; and
- (c) whether Government has probed the reasons for extinction of tigers there and if so, the results of that probe?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

- (a) As per the assessment of tiger status done by the Wildlife Institute of India, the tiger population in the Panna Tiger Reserve of Madhya Pradesh had gone locally extinct.
- (b) As per findings of the last All India estimation of tiger population, using the refined methodology in 2008, the Panna landscape, inter alia encompassing the Panna Tiger Reserve and its surrounds, sustained 24 (+1 Standard Error, range 15-32) tigers.
- (c) The Government of India had constituted a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to look into the causative factors for disappearance of tigers from the Panna Tiger Reserve. The SIT has submitted its report and attributed the main cause of tiger disappearance to poaching. The report has been forwarded to the State Government of Madhya Pradesh for taking appropriate administrative and ecological measures.