

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1808
TO BE ANSWERED ON. 16.03.2023

Population of tigers in the country

1808. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI:

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

- (a) the total population of tigers in the country at present and the average annual population growth rate recorded in the last five years;
- (b) the total number of tiger deaths reported in the country during the last five years, year-wise and State-wise;
- (c) the proportion of adult tiger deaths in total deaths recorded during the last five years, year-wise;
- (d) the number and proportion of tiger deaths caused by natural occurrences and poaching, respectively, during the last five years, year-wise; and
- (e) whether Government is planning on reviewing and strengthening anti-poaching measures in the country, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

- (a) As per All India Tiger Estimation 2018, tiger population in India is estimated to be 2967 (being lower and upper limits 2,603 to 3,346). Tiger population is increasing at a rate of 6% per annum in India when compared from 2006 to 2018 estimation.
- (b) The number of tiger deaths in the country as reported by States, during last 5 years (2018-2022) is at **Annexure-I**.
- (c) The proportion of adult tiger deaths in total deaths recorded during last 5 years is at **Annexure-II**.
- (d) The number and proportion of tiger deaths caused by natural occurrences and poaching during the last 5 years is at **Annexure-III**.
- (e) The anti-poaching measures of tiger reserves are reviewed regularly by the NTCA during the Field Directors meeting and during the supervisory visits of senior officials. Further, under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger, funding support is provided to tiger reserves for establishing and maintenance of patrolling camps, watch towers, vehicles, Special Tiger Protection Force, communication, intelligence gathering, capacity building, clearing of patrolling paths, forest roads that are crucial for strengthening anti-poaching efforts.

Annexure-I

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF THE RAJYA SABHA
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DUE FOR REPLY ON 16.03.2023**

Number of tiger deaths in the country as reported by States, during last 5 years (2018-2022)

State	Year				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Andhra Pradesh	2	1	1	1	3
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0
Assam	1	5	6	6	6
Bihar	0	1	1	4	2
Chhattisgarh	1	1	1	4	3
Delhi	0	0	0	0	0
Goa	0	0	4	0	0
Gujarat	0	1	0	0	0
Haryana	0	0	0	0	0
Jharkhand	0	0	1	0	0
Karnataka	15	12	12	14	19
Kerala	5	1	10	6	7
Madhya Pradesh	28	31	29	42	34
Maharashtra	21	18	16	28	28
Nagaland	1	0	0	0	0
Odisha	2	0	0	0	2
Rajasthan	6	3	3	1	5
Tamil Nadu	4	7	8	4	3
Telangana	0	2	0	4	0
Uttar Pradesh	6	4	9	9	3
Uttarakhand	8	7	4	3	6
West Bengal	1	2	1	1	0
Total	101	96	106	127	121

Annexure-II

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA
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Proportion of adult tiger deaths in total deaths recorded during last 5 years

Year	Adult	Sub Adult	Cub	Unknown	Total	% Proportion of adult tiger deaths
2018	58	13	16	14	101	57.43
2019	42	14	7	33	96	43.75
2020	22	2	10	72	106	20.75
2021	26	14	10	77	127	20.47
2022	60	18	21	22	121	49.59

Annexure-III

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF THE RAJYA SABHA
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**Number and proportion of tiger deaths caused by natural occurrences and poaching during the
last 5 years**

Year	N	P	UNP	US	Total	% Natural deaths	% Poaching
2018	53	44	4	-	101	52.48	43.56
2019	44	27	3	22	96	45.83	28.13
2020	20	15	1	70	106	18.87	14.15
2021	8	18	8	93	127	6.30	14.17
2022	3	10	3	105	121	2.48	8.26

N – Natural

P – Poaching

UNP – Unnatural but Not Poaching

US – Under Scrutiny

Note: NTCA follows a stringent protocol in assigning the cause of tiger death. It involves collection of visceral samples, post mortem of carcass, histopathological analysis, circumstantial evidence
Unless all the relevant documents and supporting documents are submitted by the States the tiger mortality cases are put under the category ‘Under Scrutiny’.
