

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1970
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.12.2024

Additional entry gates to Similipal Tiger Reserve

1970 DR. SASMIT PATRA:

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

- (a) the number of entry gates through which tourists can enter the Similipal Tiger Reserve in Mayurbhanj district, Odisha;
- (b) whether Government has any plans to open additional entry gates, particularly at Baniabasa Dengam Gram Panchayat, Khunta Block, Mayurbhanj, which is nearest to the Balasore Railway Station;
- (c) the number of guards currently working at the Tiger Protection Force in Similipal; and
- (d) whether Government has any plans to promote eco-tourism near the Baniabasa forest gate and Lulung area, and provide lease land to tribal entrepreneurs, considering the growing tourist interest from neighbouring West Bengal?

ANSWER

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

- (a) As reported by the State, there are four (04) entry gates namely Pithabata, Kalikaprasad, Jamuani and Talabandha through which tourists can enter into Similipal Tiger Reserve.
- (b) No such proposals have been received from the State.
- (c) As reported by the State, a total of 35 nos. of Forest Guards of the Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF) are currently working at the Similipal Tiger Reserve.
- (d) No such proposals have been received from the State. The Government of India through the National Tiger Conservation Authority (Normative Standards for Tourism activities and Project Tiger) Guidelines, 2012 issued under section 38 O (1) (c) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 promotes sustainable ecotourism in and around tiger reserves.
