

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 388**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.11.2024

**Delays in Wildlife Conservation Projects**

388. SHRI MOHAMMED NADIMUL HAQUE:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that, as of December 2023, there has been a substantial reduction in the budget allocated to the Project Tiger and Elephant scheme and delays in fund disbursement with only one State receiving its second installment of funds, if so, the reasons thereof; and
- (b) the rationale behind merging of the Project Tiger and Elephant schemes, considering the unique habitat and conservation needs of each species and measures to address specific challenges posed by this integration?

**ANSWER**

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

(a)&(b) The details of budget allocated to Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Project Tiger and Elephant' (CSS-PT&E) and expenditure under the scheme during the last 5 years is given in Annexure-I. The details on number of installments disbursed to the States/UTs under the CSS-PT&E during the financial year 2023-24 is given in Annexure-II.

The Centrally Sponsored Schemes, Project Tiger and Project Elephant, have been merged as per the decision of the Expenditure Finance Committee which was further approved by the Cabinet and named viz. Centrally Sponsored Scheme -Project Tiger & Elephant (CSS-PT&E). The merger of the schemes facilitates better allocation of resources, synergy in activities and it also allows the managers for a focused approach in conserving both the species. Moreover, now States have to submit only one Annual Plan of Operations (APO) combining the activities to be under Project Tiger and Project Elephant so that financial assistance may be expedited.

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**ANNEXURE-I**

**REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 388 RAISED BY SHRI MOHAMMED NADIMUL HAQUE REGARDING 'DELAYS IN WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PROJECTS' DUE FOR REPLY ON 28.11.2024.**

**Budget allocated and expenditure under Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Project Tiger & Elephant'**

**Rs. in Crores**

Year	Budget allocated		Expenditure	
	Project Tiger	Project Elephant	Project Tiger	Project Elephant
2019-20	282.57	29.00	282.23	30.82
2020-21	195.00	24.54	194.50	24.45
2021-22	220.00	30.00	219.94	28.44
2022-23	158.00	29.00	151.97	13.36
2023-24*	239.60		239.60	

\*Centrally Sponsored Scheme Project Elephant and Centrally Sponsored Scheme Project Tiger has been merged and now known as Centrally Sponsored Scheme - Project Tiger and Elephant.

**ANNEXURE-II**

**REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 388 RAISED BY SHRI MOHAMMED NADIMUL HAQUE REGARDING 'DELAYS IN WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PROJECTS' DUE FOR REPLY ON 28.11.2024.**

**Number of installments disbursed to the States/UTs under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Project Tiger & Elephant' in the financial year 2023-24**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>No. of installments</b>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4
3.	Assam	3
4.	Bihar	2
5.	Chhattisgarh	2
6.	Haryana	3
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1
8.	Jharkhand	3
9.	Karnataka	3
10.	Kerala	3
11.	Madhya Pradesh	4
12.	Maharashtra	3
13.	Manipur	1
14.	Meghalaya	1
15.	Mizoram	1
16.	Nagaland	4
17.	Odisha	3
18.	Rajasthan	3
19.	Tamil Nadu	4
20.	Telangana	2
21.	Tripura	1
22.	Uttar Pradesh	2
23.	Uttarakhand	3
24.	West Bengal	2