GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1752
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2018

Mortality of Tigers

1752. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Government is aware that 45 per cent of the total mortality of tigers from 2012-17 has been un-natural;
(b) if so, the various causes of un-natural deaths of these tigers;
(c) whether the Government is contemplating for a new census of the tigers and if so, the details thereof;
(d) whether due to various reasons like accessibility and the fact that tigers are thinly spread over large areas, North-East was not adequately surveyed in the past; and
(e) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken for new census for the tigers in the country including North-East?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) & (b) During the last 5 years i.e. 2012-17, 55% of tigers have died due to natural causes, 7% have died due to unnatural causes not attributable to poaching, 23% have died due to poaching while 15% have been tiger body part / derivate seizures.

(c) The Government of India conducts the All India Tiger Estimation quadrennially with the first, 2nd and 3rd cycles in 2006, 2010 and 2014 respectively. Efforts have been taken to publish report of the fourth cycle in 2019.

(d) & (e) With evolution and progress in the field of animal estimation, subtle enhancements to increase the precision, like use of a smaller grid size, besides use of random encounter models and Polygon Search method in the North East, shall be employed.

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