

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2605
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.03.2025

Poaching of Animals

2605. SHRI BRIJMOHAN AGRAWAL:

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

- (a) the details of number of Tiger Sanctuaries in the country along with the number of tigers in those sanctuaries, State-wise;
- (b) the details of the number of animals including tiger which have been killed/poached/illegally hunted in the forest areas of the country during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has provided any amount for the protection of wildlife including tigers during above period; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the strategy adopted by the Government for the protection of animal including tigers in forest areas of the country?

ANSWER

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

- (a) There are 58 tiger reserves in the country. The tiger population has increased as per the All India Tiger Estimation done in 2022, with an estimated number of 3682 (range 3167-3925) as compared to the 2018 estimation of 2967 (range 2603-3346) and 2014 estimation of 2226 (range 1945-2491). The details of tiger estimation pertaining to tiger landscapes in the country, for the years 2014, 2018 and 2022 is at **Annexure-I**.
- (b) The number of confirmed poaching / illegal hunting / killed in respect of tigers over the last three years and current year, State-wise is as follows:

| Year | State | Number of tigers confirmed poaching / illegal hunting / killed |
|------|----------------|--|
| 2022 | Madhya Pradesh | 06 |
| | Andhra Pradesh | 02 |
| | Karnataka | 03 |
| | Odisha | 01 |
| | Maharashtra | 02 |

| | | |
|------|----------------|----|
| 2023 | Maharashtra | 03 |
| | Kerala | 01 |
| | Madhya Pradesh | 08 |
| | Bihar | 02 |
| | Uttarakhand | 01 |
| | Assam | 03 |
| | Tamil Nadu | 02 |
| | Andhra Pradesh | 01 |
| 2024 | Kerala | 01 |
| | Madhya Pradesh | 02 |
| 2025 | Nil | |

The information regarding other wild animals is not collated at the level of Government of India.

- (c) Funding assistance is provided under the Project Tiger Component of the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats (CSS-IDWH) to tiger range States for conservation of tigers, raising awareness on tiger & other wildlife conservation, habitat management, protection, eco-development, human resource and infrastructure development, voluntary village relocation, as per sanctioned Annual Plan of Operation of the Tiger Reserve. The details of funds released during last three years and current financial year is at **Annexure-II**.
- (d) The Government of India, through the National Tiger Conservation Authority, has advocated a three pronged strategy to manage human-wildlife negative interactions as follows:-
- (i) **Material and logistical support:** Funding support through the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger, is provided to tiger reserves for acquiring capacity in terms of infrastructure and material, to deal with tigers dispersing out of source areas. These are solicited by tiger reserves through an Annual Plan of Operation (APO) every year which stems out from an overarching Tiger Conservation Plan (TCP), mandated under Section 38 V of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. *Inter alia*, activities such as payment of ex-gratia and compensation, periodic awareness campaigns to sensitize, guide and advise the general populace on man-animal conflict, dissemination of information through various forms of media, procurement of immobilization equipment, drugs, training and capacity building of forest staff to deal with conflict events are generally solicited.
- (ii) **Restricting habitat interventions:** Based on the carrying capacity of tigers in a tiger reserve, habitat interventions are restricted through an overarching TCP. In case tiger numbers are at carrying capacity levels, it is advised that habitat interventions should be limited so that there is no excessive spill over of wildlife including tigers thereby minimizing man-animal conflict. Further, in buffer areas around tiger reserves, habitat interventions are

restricted such that they are sub-optimal vis-à-vis the core/critical tiger habitat areas, judicious enough to facilitate dispersal to other rich habitat areas only.

- (iii) Standard Operating Procedure (SOPs):** The National Tiger Conservation Authority has issued following three SOPs to deal with human-animal conflict, which are available in public domain:
- i. To deal with emergency arising due to straying of tigers in human dominated landscapes
 - ii. To deal with tiger depredation on livestock
 - iii. For active management towards rehabilitation of tigers from source areas at the landscape level.

The three SOPs *inter alia* include the issue of managing dispersing tigers, managing livestock kills so as to reduce conflict as well as relocating tigers from source areas to areas where density of tiger is low, so that conflict in rich source areas does not occur.

Also as per Tiger Conservation Plans need based and site-specific management interventions are undertaken by the tiger reserves for improving the quality of wildlife habitat and funding support for these activities is provided under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats.

Annexure-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2605 ON POACHING OF ANIMALS DUE FOR REPLY ON 17.03.2025

Details of tiger estimation pertaining to tiger landscapes in the country, for the years 2014, 2018 and 2022 (As per All India Tiger Estimation Reports)

| State | Tiger Population | | |
|---|------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 2014 | 2018 | 2022 |
| <i>Shivalik-Gangetic Plain Landscape Complex</i> | | | |
| Uttarakhand | 340 | 442 | 560 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 117 | 173 | 205 |
| Bihar | 28 | 31 | 54 |
| Shivalik Gangetic | 485 | 646 | 819 |
| <i>Central Indian Landscape Complex and Eastern Ghats Landscape Complex</i> | | | |
| Andhra Pradesh | 68 | 48 | 63 |
| Telangana | - | 26 | 21 |
| Chhattisgarh | 46 | 19 | 17 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 308 | 526 | 785 |
| Maharashtra | 190 | 312 | 444 |
| Odisha | 28 | 28 | 20 |
| Rajasthan | 45 | 69 | 88 |
| Jharkhand | 3 | 5 | 1 |
| Central India | 688 | 1033 | 1439 |
| <i>Western Ghats Landscape Complex</i> | | | |
| Karnataka | 406 | 524 | 563 |
| Kerala | 136 | 190 | 213 |
| Tamil Nadu | 229 | 264 | 306 |
| Goa | 5 | 3 | 5 |
| Western Ghats | 776 | 981 | 1087 |
| <i>North Eastern Hills and Brahmaputra Flood Plains</i> | | | |
| Assam | 167 | 190 | 229 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 28 | 29 | 9 |
| Mizoram | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Nagaland | - | 0 | 0 |
| Northern West Bengal | 3 | 0 | 2 |
| North East Hills, and Brahmaputra | 201 | 219 | 236 |
| <i>Sunderbans</i> | 76 | 88 | 101 |
| TOTAL | 2226 | 2967 | 3682 |

Annexure-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF THE OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2605 ON POACHING OF ANIMALS DUE FOR REPLY ON 17.03.2025

Details of funds released during last three years and current financial year (as on 11.03.2025)

(Rs. in Lakhs)

| Sl. No. | State | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 (including PT&E) | 2024-25 (including PT&E) |
|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---|---|
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 292.11 | 0.00 | 149.42 | 365.13 |
| 2 | Arunachal Pradesh | 869.08 | 787.19 | 1119.91 | 1767.99 |
| 3 | Assam | 1476.75 | 2559.78 | 2619.31 | 2043.60 |
| 4 | Bihar | 552.72 | 246.90 | 308.98 | 361.69 |
| 5 | Chhattisgarh | 355.85 | 165.75 | 292.86 | 181.58 |
| 6 | Jharkhand | 195.06 | 227.75 | 405.79 | 727.56 |
| 7 | Karnataka | 2956.70 | 1716.92 | 2613.08 | 2801.27 |
| 8 | Kerala | 868.78 | 417.59 | 996.22 | 221.37 |
| 9 | Madhya Pradesh | 3523.52 | 3956.88 | 4303.79 | 5910.50 |
| 10 | Maharashtra | 2991.06 | 809.62 | 2614.45 | 3373.51 |
| 11 | Mizoram | 374.13 | 78.75 | 144.00 | 247.92 |
| 12 | Odisha | 1056.86 | 946.82 | 1012.59 | 563.40 |
| 13 | Rajasthan | 841.05 | 529.78 | 968.30 | 579.48 |
| 14 | Tamil Nadu | 1576.22 | 501.35 | 2547.97 | 1450.53 |
| 15 | Telangana | 543.26 | 0.00 | 323.31 | 291.68 |
| 16 | Uttarakhand | 1463.71 | 741.13 | 1495.52 | 1207.53 |
| 17 | Uttar Pradesh | 1304.85 | 919.96 | 1031.98 | 1381.25 |
| 18 | West Bengal | 708.28 | 458.77 | 522.58 | 425.95 |
| | Total | 21949.99 | 15064.94 | 23470.06 | 23901.94 |
