

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 225
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.07.2025

National Tiger Conservation Authority

225. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:

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

- (a) the current population of tigers in the country and whether there has been any increase or decrease in the recent years and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the specific measures taken by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) to enhance the tiger conservation efforts across the country and the manner in which these measures contributed to the overall population trends;
- (c) the current status of tiger conservation in the Mukundra Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan and whether there has been any progress in the efforts to boost the tiger population in this reserve;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken/being taken to address the challenges specific to this region; and
- (e) the measures taken by the NTCA to ensure the protection and monitoring of tigers in lesser-known or smaller reserves like Mukundra along with the role played by the local communities in these conservation efforts?

ANSWER

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

- (a) 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 steps taken by the Government of India through the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) for conservation and protection of tigers is as under:-

1. Generic measures

- Providing assistance to States under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of “Project Tiger” for protection, infrastructure and antipoaching operations (including deployment of Tiger Protection Force and Special Tiger Protection Force), which is now ongoing as the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger & Elephant

- Providing grant through NTCA for patrolling in tiger rich sensitive forest areas outside tiger reserves besides under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger & Elephant
- Disseminating of real time information of backward / forward linkages relating to poachers / wildlife criminals.
- Performing supervisory field visits through the National Tiger Conservation Authority and its regional offices
- Launching tiger reserve level monitoring using camera trap to keep a photo ID database of individual tigers
- Preparing a national database of individual tiger photo captures to establish linkage with body parts seized or dead tigers
- Assisting States to deploy local workforce in a big way for protection to complement the efforts of field staff [In all, approximately 43 lakh mandays are generated annually]
- Sharing of information on seizure of body parts including skin of tigers among tiger range countries to ascertain source area.

2. Security Plan

The National Tiger Conservation Authority has issued generic guidelines for formulating a Security Plan for each tiger reserve which is operationalized in the overarching Tiger Conservation Plan which is legally mandated under section 38 V of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

3. Security Audit

The National Tiger Conservation Authority has developed a framework for carrying out the assessment of the security threats and for formulating site specific security plan which has been completed in 25 different tiger reserves in Phase-I and action has been initiated for the remaining tiger reserves.

4. M-STrIPES (Monitoring System for Tigers Intensive-Protection & Ecological Status)

This is an android application which has three distinct modules namely Patrol module, Ecological module and Conflict module. The Patrol module *inter-alia* is a mechanism to ensure accountability of front line staff vis-à-vis anti-poaching efforts and useful for the tiger reserve management to strengthen protection measures, based on data that is generated through M-STrIPES.

5. Amendment to the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972

The Government of India amended the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and enhanced punishment for offence in relation to the core area of a tiger reserve or where the offence relates to hunting in the tiger reserves or altering the boundaries of tiger reserves.

Further, 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, which stems out from a statutory Tiger Conservation Plan.

- (c) to (e) As per the All India Tiger Estimation done in 2022 the population of tigers in Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve is one. Further the NTCA has approved translocation of tigers and its prey in Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve (MHTR). Further, The Government of India has notified the National Tiger Conservation Authority (Normative Standards for Tourism and Project Tiger) Guidelines, 2012 for management of tigers & their habitats along with advisories and Standard Operating Procedures for protection and conservation of tigers.

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 Project Tiger component of 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 LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 225 ON NATIONAL TIGER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY DUE FOR REPLY ON 21.07.2025

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
