

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1422
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2026

Reclassification of Critical Tiger Habitat

1422. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the proposal of the State Government of Rajasthan to rationalise the boundaries of the Sariska Tiger Reserve;
- (b) whether the Government has invited public objections and undertaken ecological and legal assessments before finalising the proposal, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Central Empowered Committee or the National Tiger Conservation Authority has submitted any report or recommendation on the matter, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the number of dolomite mines currently active in the surrounding region and the estimated number of additional mines likely to become operational in the event of such reclassification, along with the safeguards envisaged to prevent adverse impact on wildlife and forest ecology?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) The proposal for rationalization of boundaries of Sariska Tiger Reserve is being undertaken by the relevant authorities State and Central Government as per the provisions of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

The Central Empowered Committee (CEC) as per their report dated 22.07.2025 has recommended the rationalization of boundaries of the Sariska Tiger Reserve. Subsequently the State government submitted the proposal for rationalization of the Critical Tiger Habitat (CTH) with the recommendation of State Board of Wild Life (SBWL) for consideration of Standing Committee for National Board for Wildlife (SC-NBWL). The proposal was then examined by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) and recommended the proposal for rationalization based on ecological considerations. Based on the recommendation of SBWL and NTCA the SC-NBWL approved the proposal.

Further in this regard, as informed by the State government, the public notices were published by the District Collectors of Alwar and Kotputli-Behror vide letter No. 5089 dated 28.11.2025 and letter No. 7289 dated 03.12.2025, respectively. Further, declarations regarding the areas proposed to be notified as sanctuary areas were also issued by the District Collectors of Alwar and Kotputli-Behror vide letter No. 5102 dated 28.11.2025 and letter No. 7322 dated 03.12.2025, respectively. In these declarations, proceedings for settlement of objections have been initiated by the District Collectors. A period of 30 days has been prescribed for submission of suggestions / objections regarding the

public notice and a period of two months has been prescribed for submission of suggestions / objections regarding the declaration to be submitted within the stipulated time to the office of the Additional District Collector (Second) concerned.

The rationalized boundaries of the CTH and Sariska Tiger Reserve and its corresponding ESZ boundary, have not yet been finalized and, therefore, estimated number of additional mines likely to become operational in the event of such reclassification cannot be ascertained at present. Further, as per the information provided by the State government, mining within one kilometer of boundary of the existing CTH has been prohibited. As per the information received from the State government, one Dolomite mine in the surrounding area of existing CTH of Sariska Tiger Reserve is operational.
