

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2738
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.12.2015

Poaching of Tigers

2738. SHRI SANJAY HARIBHAU JADHAV:
SHRI NAGAR RODMAL:
SHRI R. DHRUVA NARAYANA:
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARASTE:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that about 55 tigers have died across the country upto 21 November, 2015 as per records of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) and TRAFFIC India, the wildlife trade monitoring programme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether many of the tigers have died after being caught in snares or traps laid by poachers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to prevent poaching and to curb such illegal acts; and
- (e) whether the Government is considering the use of drones to patrol the natural habitats of tigers and other endangered species to prevent poaching and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

- (a) & (b) Yes Sir. 56 tigers died during the said period. The details are at **Annexure-I**. The same is also available in public domain at www.tigernet.nic.in.
- (c) & (d) No Sir. Only one confirmed case of tiger poaching using snares or traps has been reported from State of Madhya Pradesh. The Government of India through the National Tiger Conservation Authority / Project Tiger has taken a number of steps for protection of tiger and other wildlife interalia, including steps to prevent poaching, and to curb other illegal acts. The same are at **Annexure-II**.
- (e) Yes Sir. The use of drones has been considered by the Government and pilot-tested in Panna Tiger Reserve, Madhya Pradesh. Need based use is being done by other tiger reserves also.

ANNEXURE-I**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2738 ON POACHING OF TIGERS DUE FOR REPLY ON 15.12.2015.**

**State-wise details of tiger death across the country, as reported by States
(upto 21 November, 2015)**

S. No.	State	Inside Tiger Reserve	Outside Tiger Reserve
1	Andhra Pradesh	0	0
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0
3	Assam	2	0
4	Bihar	2	0
5	Chhattisgarh	0	0
6	Jharkhand	0	0
7	Karnataka	14	0
8	Kerala	5	1
9	Madhya Pradesh	8	3
10	Maharashtra	2	3
11	Mizoram	0	0
12	Odisha	0	0
13	Rajasthan	1	0
14	Tamil Nadu	4	1
15	Telangana	0	0
16	Uttar Pradesh	1	0
17	Uttarakhand	2	4
18	West Bengal	3	0
	TOTAL	44	12
	GRAND TOTAL	56	

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (c) & (d) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2738 ON POACHING OF TIGERS DUE FOR REPLY ON 15.12.2015.

The Government of India through the National Tiger Conservation Authority / Project Tiger has taken a number of steps for protection of tiger and other wildlife interalia, including steps to prevent poaching and to curb other illegal acts:

- 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)
- Providing grant through NTCA for patrolling in tiger rich sensitive forest areas outside tiger reserves
- Alerting the States as and when required
- Transmitting backward / forward linkages of information relating to poachers
- Advising the States for combing forest floor to check snares / traps
- Performing supervisory field visits through the National Tiger Conservation Authority and its regional offices
- Using information technology for improved surveillance (e-Eye surveillance system) using thermal cameras launched in Corbett Tiger Reserve, Uttarakhand and Kaziranga Tiger Reserve, Assam and Ratapani Wildlife Sanctuary, Madhya Pradesh
- 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 refine protection oriented monitoring through monitoring system for tiger's intensive protection and ecological status (M-STrIPES)
- Assisting States to deploy local workforce in a big way for protection to complement the efforts of field staff [In all, approximately 24 lakh mandays are generated annually with 50% central assistance amounting to around Rs. 24 crores (excluding matching 50% share given by States) under Project Tiger. Many local tribes constitute such local workforce (besides non-tribals), eg. Baigas, Gonds in Madhya Pradesh, Gonds in Maharashtra, Chenchus in Andhra Pradesh, Sholigas in Karnataka, Gujjars in Uttarakhand and Irulas in Tamil Nadu to name a few. The deployment of such local tribals has been fostered / encouraged in the last three years].
- Initiative taken for collaboration of National Tiger Conservation Authority and Wildlife Crime Control Bureau towards an online tiger / wildlife crime tracking / reporting system in tiger reserves.
- Use of modern technology like Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (Drones).
