GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *29 TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.07.2016

Tiger Reserves

*29. SHRI DHANANJAY MAHADIK: SHRI SATAV RAJEEV:

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

- (a) the details of tiger reserves in the country at present;
- (b) whether the National Tiger Conservation Authority has released funds for some reserves only for "Project Tiger", and if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether there has been some delay in release of funds to tiger reserves in the country and if so, the reasons therefor along with the norms fixed for such releases;
- (d) whether the delay in release of funds has affected conservation efforts to some extent besides encouraging poaching; and
- (e) if so, the corrective steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard along with the other steps taken by the Government for the protection of tigers in the country?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE)

(a), (b), (c), (d) & (e):- A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a), (b), (c), (d) & (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *29 ON TIGER RESERVES DUE FOR REPLY ON 19.07.2016

- (a) As on date, there are 49 tiger reserves in the country and their details, are at **Annexure-I.**
- (b) Funding assistance is given to all the tiger States / tiger reserves under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger based on their Annual Plan of Operations. So far, funds have been released to 18 tiger reserves during the current financial year 2016-17 and others are in progress. Funding assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger given to tiger reserves during the last three years and in the current year so far is at **Annexure-II**.
- (c) No Sir. There is no delay as such in release of funds to tiger reserves in the country. The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) provides funding assistance to tiger reserves under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger based on the Annual Plan of Operations (APOs), submitted by the States. The said APOs are required to be in conformity with the prescriptions of the Tiger Conservation Plan duly approved and guidelines issued by the NTCA. physical and financial progress report along with the utilization certificate of the amount / fund released during the previous year, besides fulfillment of other mandatory conditions as stipulated in the sanction order as well as compliance of Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding are also required to be submitted with the proposed Annual Plan of Operation. The APOs, complete in all respects, are then scrutinized and processed at the NTCA and Integrated Finance Division (IFD) of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. Due to shortcomings in the proposals (APOs), submitted by the States, processing of the same becomes time taking at times. A web-based application software for online submission of APOs has been developed in consultations with NIC which is going to be used from next year. The said web-based application will curtail the processing time.
- (d) & (e) No Sir. To meet out the exigencies, there are Tiger Conservation Foundations as per the statutory provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, established in almost all tiger reserves which takes care of expenditure incurred in the meantime. Besides, proposals for providing funding assistance to rest of the tiger reserves are at different stages of processing.

Several milestone initiatives have been taken by the Government of India through the National Tiger Conservation Authority for protection and conservation of tigers and other wild animals, and the same is at **Annexure-III.**

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *29 ON TIGER RESERVES DUE FOR REPLY ON 19.07.2016.

Details of Tiger Reserves in India

Sl. No.	Year of creation	Name of Tiger Reserve	State	Area of the core / critical tiger habitat (In Sq. Kms.)	Area of the buffer / peripheral (In Sq. Kms.)	Total area (In Sq.Kms.)	
1	1973-74	Bandipur	Karnataka	872.24	584.06	1456.3	
2	1973-74	Corbett	Uttarakhand	821.99	466.32	1288.31	
		Amangarh (buffer of Corbett TR)	Uttar Pradesh	-	80.60	80.60	
3	1973-74	Kanha	Madhya Pradesh	917.43	1134.361	2051.791	
4	1973-74	Manas	Assam	840.04	2310.88	3150.92	
5	1973-74	Melghat	Maharashtra	1500.49	1268.03	2768.52	
6	1973-74	Palamau	Jharkhand	414.08	715.85	1129.93	
7	1973-74	Ranthambore	Rajasthan	1113.364	297.9265	1411.291	
8	1973-74	Similipal	Odisha	1194.75	1555.25	2750.00	
9	1973-74	Sunderbans	West Bengal	1699.62	885.27	2584.89	
10	1978-79	Periyar	Kerala	881.00		925.00	
11	1978-79	Sariska	Rajasthan	881.1124	332.23	1213.342	
12	1982-83	Buxa	West Bengal	390.5813	367.3225	757.9038	
13	1982-83			1258.37		2799.07	
		Indravati	Chhattisgarh		1540.70		
14	1982-83	Namdapha	Arunachal Pradesh	1807.82		2052.82	
15	1987-88	Dudhwa	Uttar Pradesh	1093.79	1107.9848	2201.7748	
16	1988-89	Kalakad-Mundanthurai	Tamil Nadu	895.00	706.542	1601.542	
17	1989-90	Valmiki	Bihar	598.45	300.93	899.38	
18	1992-93	Pench	Madhya Pradesh	411.33	768.30225	1179.63225	
19	1993-94	Tadoba-Andhari	Maharashtra	625.82	1101.7711	1727.5911	
20	1993-94	Bandhavgarh	Madhya Pradesh	716.903	820.03509	1536.938	
21	1994-95	Panna	Madhya Pradesh	576.13	1021.97	1598.10	
22	1994-95	Dampa	Mizoram	500.00	488.00	988.00	
23	1998-99	Bhadra	Karnataka	492.46	571.83	1064.29	
24	1998-99	Pench	Maharashtra	257.26	483.96	741.22	
25	1999-2000	Pakke	Arunachal Pradesh	683.45	515.00	1198.45	
26	1999-2000	Nameri	Assam	320.00		464.00	
27	1999-2000	Satpura	Madhya Pradesh	1339.264	794.04397	2133.30797	
28	2008-2009	Anamalai	Tamil Nadu	958.59	521.28	1479.87	
29	2008-2009	Udanti-Sitanadi	Chattisgarh	851.09	991.45	1842.54	
30	2008-2009	Satkosia	Odisha	523.61	440.26	963.87	
31	2008-2009	Kaziranga	Assam	625.58		1173.58	
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32	2008-2009	Achanakmar	Chattisgarh	626.195		914.017	
33	2008-2009	Dandeli-Anshi	Karnataka	814.884	282.63	1097.514	

34	2008-2009	Sanjay-Dubri	Madhya Pradesh	812.571	861.931	1674.502
35	2008-2009	Mudumalai	Tamil Nadu	321.00	367.59	688.59
36	2008-2009	Nagarahole	Karnataka	643.35	562.41	1205.76
37	2008-2009	Parambikulam	Kerala	390.89	252.772	643.662
38	2009-2010	Sahyadri	Maharashtra	600.12	565.45	1165.57
39	2010-2011	Biligiri Ranganatha Temple	Karnataka	359.10	215.72	574.82
40	2012-2013	Kawal	Telangana	892.23	1123.212	2015.44
41	2013-2014	Sathyamangalam	Tamil Nadu	793.49	614.91	1408.40
42	2013-2014	Mukandra Hills	Rajasthan	417.17	342.82	759.99
43	2013-2014	Nawegaon-Nagzira	Maharashtra	653.674	-	653.674
44	1982-83	Nagarjunsagar Srisailam	Andhra Pradesh	2595.72	700.59	3296.31
45	2014	Amrabad	Telangana	2166.37	445.02	2611.39
46	2014	Pilibhit	Uttar Pradesh	602.7980	127.4518	730.2498
47	2014	Bor	Maharashtra	138.12	678.15	816.27
48	2015	Rajaji	Uttarakhand	819.54	255.63	1075.17
49	2016 (24.2.2016)	Orang	Assam	79.28	413.18	492.46
		TOTAL		39788.12	31250.45	71038.57

ANNEXURE-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *29 ON TIGER RESERVES DUE FOR REPLY ON 19.07.2016.

Funding assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger given to tiger reserves during the last three years and in the current year

(Rs. in Lakhs)

			(RS. III Lakiis)			
Tiger Reserve	States	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	
Nagarjunsagar	Andhra Pradesh	121.3504	131.661	0.00	0.00	
Kawal	Andhra Pradesh	90.4300	52.48	0.00	0.00	
Namdhapa	Arunachal Pradesh	324.1837	289.209	184.439	225.569	
Pakke	Arunachal Pradesh	412.8568	369.217	245.1	0.00	
Kaziranga	Assam	708.9060	1136.656	1025.131	0.00	
Manas	Assam	99.0765	328.199	259.86	0.00	
Nameri	Assam	0.00	44.534	79.542	0.00	
Orang	Assam	0.00	0.00	60.88	0.00	
Valmiki	Bihar	284.7730	317.096	223.55051	384.655	
Achanakmar	Chhattisgarh	255.6320	297.267	184.829	0.00	
Indravati	Chhattisgarh	75.5500	97.781	121.504	0.00	
Udanti-Sitanadi	Chhattisgarh	208.4560	214.779	92.612	0.00	
Palamau	Jharkhand	251.1680	199.08	47.9847	0.00	
Bandipur	Karnataka	808.8410	676.753	581.4208	562.934	
Bhadra	Karnataka	306.9850	221.995	196.922	0.00	
Dandeli Anshi (Kali)	Karnataka	434.5460	239.29	201.408	398.804	
Nagarhole	Karnataka	251.1008	279.506	267.3064	435.354	
Biligiri Ranganatha Temple	Karnataka	183.5970	148.2286	131.1372	278.337	
Periyar	Kerala	271.4880	286.584	226.416	0.00	
Parambi Kulam	Kerala	208.1840	230.9511	170.185	0.00	
Bandhavgarh	Madhya Pradesh	244.6120	282.481	237.1344	385.332	
Kanha	Madhya Pradesh	3162.2040	2792.154	354.352	521.5	
Panna	Madhya Pradesh	358.3480	348.477	318.046	283.03	
Pench	Madhya Pradesh	314.2390	314.4614	181.4386	409.7054	
Sanjay Dubri	Madhya Pradesh	323.6850	263.291	169.396	271.913	
Satpura	Madhya Pradesh	393.0500	334.2538	160.64	271.517	

Melghat	Maharashtra	320.4880	2371.5512	2872.7568	0.00
Pench	Maharashtra	343.4400	346.5453	364.3134	0.00
Tadoba-Andheri	Maharashtra	2564.4383	414.5646	393.44445	0.00
Sahyadri	Maharashtra	136.7660	124.1026	113.936	0.00
Nawegaon-Nagzira	Maharashtra	0.00	105.6	122.03545	0.00
Bor	Maharashtra	0.00	63.1604	56.5928	0.00
Dampa	Mizoram	233.6800	232.1896	187.9845	0.00
Satkosia	Odisha	191.3030	192.0869	167.45412	311.652
Similipal	Odisha	556.8900	515.3016	377.3464	0.00
Ranthambhore	Rajasthan	304.5200	260.22	182.12	0.00
Sariska	Rajasthan	208.3280	274.35	1016.533	0.00
Mukandara	Rajasthan	0.00	92.622	59.155	0.00
Kalakad Mundanthurai	Tamil Nadu	127.6950	195.35	145.189	183.418
Mudumalai	Tamil Nadu	229.1160	243.786	1559.492	0.00
Anamalai	Tamil Nadu	252.8440	272.639	140.7564	205.218
Sathyamangalam	Tamil Nadu	144.0200	152.541	104.73388	242.582
Kawal	Telangana	0.00	0.00	128.8048	0.00
Amrabad	Telangana	0.00	0.00	86.0144	0.00
Rajaji	Uttarakhand	0.00	0.00	273.154	0.00
Corbett	Uttarakhand	377.6890	391.1941	410.83138	0.00
Buxa	West Bengal	136.4700	205.71	108.7324	206.883
Sunderbans	West Bengal	211.3400	391.1725	267.77541	0.00
Dudhwa	Uttar Pradesh	525.8760	484.4133	500.0883	0.00
Pilibhit	Uttar Pradesh	0.0000	276.515	124.458	319.816
Total		16958.1655	17502.0000	15484.9365	5898.219

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (d) & (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *29 ON TIGER RESERVES DUE FOR REPLY ON 19.07.2016.

Several milestone initiatives taken by the Government of India through the National Tiger Conservation Authority for protection and conservation of tigers and other wild animals

Legal steps

- 1. Amendment of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 in 2006 to provide enabling provisions for constituting the National Tiger Conservation Authority under section 38 IV B and the Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau under section 38 IV C.
- 2. Enhancement of punishment for offence in relation to the core area of a tiger reserve or where the offence relate to hunting in the tiger reserves or altering the boundaries of tiger reserves, etc.
- 3. Comprehensive guidelines under section 38O 1 (c) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 issued for Project Tiger and Tourism in Tiger Reserves on 15th October, 2012.

Administrative steps

- 4. Constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) with effect from the 4th September, 2006, for strengthening tiger conservation by, interalia, ensuring normative standards in tiger reserve management, preparation of reserve specific tiger conservation plan, laying down annual audit report before Parliament, constituting State level Steering Committees under the Chairmanship of Chief Ministers and establishment of Tiger Conservation Foundation.
- 5. Constitution of a multidisciplinary Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau (Wildlife Crime Control Bureau) with effect from the 6th June, 2007 to effectively control illegal trade in wildlife.
- 6. Strengthening of antipoaching activities, including special strategy for monsoon patrolling, by providing funding support to tiger reserve States, as proposed by them, for deployment of antipoaching squads involving ex-army personnel or home guards, apart from workforce comprising of local people, in addition to strengthening of communication and wireless facilities.
- 7. The in-principle approval has been accorded by the National Tiger Conservation Authority for creation of new tiger reserves, and the sites are: Ratapani (Madhya Pradesh), Sunabeda (Odisha) and Guru Ghasidas (Chhattisgarh). The State Governments have been advised to send proposals for declaring the following areas as tiger reserves: (i) Suhelwa (Uttar Pradesh), (ii) Mhadei Sanctuary (Goa), (iii) Srivilliputhur Grizzled Giant Squirrel / Megamalai Wildlife Sanctuaries / Varushanadu Valley (Tamil Nadu), (iv) Dibang Wildlife Sanctuary (Arunachal Pradesh) and (v) Cauveri-MM Hills (Karnataka).
- 8. Rajaji National Park (Uttarakhand) & Orang National Park (Assam) have been declared / notified as 48th & 49th Tiger Reserves. Besides the recently notified tiger reserves

include: Kawal (Telangana), Sathyamangalam (Tamil Nadu), Mukandra Hills (Rajasthan), Nawegaon-Nagzira (Maharashtra), Amrabad (erstwhile Nagarjunasagar Srisailam Tiger Reserve portion) (Telangana), Pilibhit (Uttar Pradesh) and Bor (Maharashtra).

- 9. The revised Project Tiger guidelines have been issued to State Governments for strengthening tiger conservation, which apart from ongoing activities, inter alia, include financial support to States for enhanced village relocation or rehabilitation package for people living in core or critical tiger habitats (from Rs. 1 lakh per family to Rs. 10 lakhs per family), rehabilitation or resettlement of communities involved in traditional hunting, mainstreaming livelihood and wildlife concerns in forests outside tiger reserves and fostering corridor conservation through restorative strategy to arrest habitat fragmentation.
- 10. A scientific methodology for estimating tiger (including co-predators, prey animals and assessment of habitat status) has been evolved and mainstreamed. The findings of this estimation and assessment are bench marks for future tiger conservation strategy.
- 11. The 18 tiger States have notified the core/critical tiger habitat (39788.12 sq. km.), and the buffer/peripheral area (31250.45 sq.km.) of all the 49 tiger reserves in the country, under section 38V of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, as amended in 2006.
- 12. Regional Offices of the National Tiger Conservation Authority are operational at Nagpur, Bengaluru and Guwahati headed by an Inspector General of Forests.

Financial steps

13. Financial and technical help is provided to the State Governments under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, such as "Project Tiger" and "Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats" for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the State Governments for providing effective protection to wild animals.

International Cooperation

- 14. India has a bilateral understanding with Nepal on controlling trans-boundary illegal trade in wildlife and conservation, apart from a protocol on tiger conservation with China.
- 15. A protocol has been signed in September, 2011 with Bangladesh for conservation of the Royal Bengal Tiger of the Sunderban.
- 16. A sub-group on tiger and leopard conservation has been constituted for cooperation with the Russian Federation.
- 17. India is the founder member of the Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.
- 18. During the 14th meeting of the Conference of Parties to CITES, which was held from 3rd to 15th June, 2007 at The Hague, India introduced a resolution along with China, Nepal and the Russian Federation, with direction to Parties with operations breeding tigers on a commercial scale, for restricting such captive populations to a level supportive only to conserving wild tigers. The resolution was adopted as a decision with minor amendments. Further, India made an intervention appealing to China to phase out tiger farming and eliminate stockpiles of Asian big cats body parts and derivatives. The importance of continuing the ban on trade of body parts of tigers was emphasized.

- 19. Based on India's strong intervention during the 62nd meeting of the Standing Committee of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) at Geneva from 23-27 July, 2012, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora Secretariat has issued a notification No. 2012/054 dated the 3rd September, 2012 to Parties to fully implement Decision 14.69 and report to the Secretariat by 25 September, 2012 (Progress made on restricting captive breeding operations of tigers etc.).
- 20. The 3rd Asia Ministerial Conference (3 AMC) was organized in New Delhi from 12-14 April 2016. Inspired by the statement of Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, during this conference that "conservation of tigers is not a choice, it is an imperative", to achieve the concrete results of ensuring the conservation of tigers in the wild and their habitats by 2022, the representatives of the Governments of the Tiger Range Countries resolved to:
 - Accelerate implementation of the Global Tiger Recovery Programme (GTRP)/National Tiger Recovery Programme (NTRP) and agreed actions from the above-mentioned declarations, review and update priority and differentiated action plans, and track progress through mutual and systematic reporting and evaluation.
 - Align development and tiger conservation in a mutually complementary manner by re-orienting development strategies to mainstream the concerns of tiger conservation, such as by integrating tiger and wildlife safeguards in infrastructure at the landscape level, developing partnerships with business groups, and strong engagement with local stakeholders.
 - Leverage funding and technical support from international organisations, bilateral and multilateral financial institutions, foundations, civil society organisations, private sector, and climate funds, in addition to TRC governments.
 - Recognise and enhance the importance of tiger habitats by promoting them as providing ecosystem services, as engines of economic growth and helping to address climate change.
 - Emphasize recovery of tiger populations in areas with low tiger densities and restoration in areas from which they have been extirpated by using successful programs of tiger reintroduction and rehabilitation of their habitats and prey.
 - Strengthen co-operation at the highest levels of government to combat wildlife crime, address the demand for tiger products, and increase formal and informal transboundary coordination.
 - Enhance knowledge sharing and capacity development for all stakeholders and increase the use of technology, including smart tools, monitoring protocols, and information systems, to improve management effectiveness.

OTHER MISCELLANEOUS STEPS

21. **Creation of Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF):** The Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF) has been made operational in the States of Karnataka (Bandipur), Maharashtra (Pench and Tadoba-Andhari) and Odisha (Similipal), out of 13 initially selected tiger reserves, with 60% central assistance under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger. In-principle approval has been accorded for creation of the said force in

Nawegoan-Nagzira, Melghat (Maharashtra), Kawal and Amrabad (erstwhile Nagarjunasagar Srisailam Tiger Reserve portion) Tiger Reserves (Telangana).

- 22. In collaboration with TRAFFIC-INDIA, an **online tiger crime data base** has been launched, and Generic Guidelines for preparation of reserve specific Security Plan has been evolved.
- 23. Implementing a tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with tiger States, linked to fund flows for effective implementation of tiger conservation initiatives.
- 24. Steps taken for modernizing the infrastructure and field protection, besides launching 'Monitoring system for Tigers' Intensive Protection and Ecological Status (M-STrIPES)' for effective field patrolling and monitoring.
- 25. Steps taken for no-cost involvement of Non-Governmental Experts in the all India tiger estimation.
- 26. Initiatives taken for improving the field delivery through capacity building of field officials, apart from providing incentives.
- 27. As a part of active management to rebuild Sariska and Panna Tiger Reserves where tigers have become locally extinct, reintroduction of tigers and tigresses have been done. The successful reintroduction of wild tigers in Sariska is a unique exercise and is the first of its kind in the world. The reintroduced tigresses are breeding. The tiger reintroduction initiative at Panna (MP) has been very successful.
- 28. Special advisories issued for in-situ build up of prey base and tiger population through active management in tiger reserves having low population status of tiger and its prey.
- 29. **All India Tiger, Co-predators and Prey Estimation, 2014:-** The third round of country level tiger status assessment completed in 2014, with the findings indicating an increase with a tiger population estimate of 2226 (lower and upper limits being 1945 and 2491 respectively), as compared to the last country level estimation of 2010, with an estimate of 1706 (lower and upper limits being 1520-1909 tigers), and 2006 estimation, with an estimate of 1411 (lower and upper limits being 1165 and 1657). At present, India has around 70% of tiger population and its source areas amongst the 13 tiger range countries in the world, owing to its long history of conserving the species through Project Tiger (2.12% of country's geographical area spread out in 49 tiger reserves in 18 States).
- 30. **Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE)**: A report on Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) of Tiger Reserves was released on January, 2015, containing the third round of independent assessment based on refined criteria done in 2013-14 for 43 tiger reserves. Out of 43 tiger reserves, 17 were rated as 'very good', 16 as 'good' and 10 as 'fair'.
- 31. Providing special assistance for mitigation of human-tiger conflicts in problematic areas.

Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

- 32. A 'Standard Operating Procedure' for dealing with tiger deaths has been issued, based on advisories of Project Tiger / National Tiger Conservation Authority, with inputs from Wildlife Crime Control Bureau, State officials and experts, fine tuned to meet the present challenges.
- 33. A 'Standard Operating Procedure' for dealing with straying tigers in human dominated landscape has been issued.
- 34. A 'Standard Operating Procedure' for disposing tiger/leopard carcass/body parts has been issued.
- 35. A Standard Operating Procedure has been issued to deal with orphaned / abandoned tiger cubs and old / injured tigers in the wild.
- 36. A 'Standard Operating Procedure' has been issued to deal with tiger depredation on livestock.
- 37. A 'Standard Operating Procedure' has been issued for active management towards rehabilitation of tigers from source areas at landscape level.
- 38. Launching of Phase-IV tiger reserve level, continuous monitoring of tigers using camera traps and building up data on photo captures of individual tigers.
- 39. Launching the creation of a national repository of camera trap photo IDs of individual tigers.
- 40. In-principle approval for use of CAMPA funds towards village relocation from core areas.
- 41. Under active management, permission accorded for translocation of wilded / straying tigers / tigresses from high to low density reserves within States.
- 42. Field level workshops for capacity building of field officers to deal with straying tigers.

Recent Steps

- 43. On completion of e-surveillance project in Corbett Tiger Reserve (Uttarakhand), central assistance (100%) has been provided for installing 24X7 e-surveillance at Kaziranga Tiger Reserve (Assam) and fringe of Ratapani Wildlife Sanctuary (Madhya Pradesh).
- 44. **Economic Valuation of six tiger reserves** done in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Forest Management. Similar exercise is being done for 10 more tiger reserves.
- 45. Trial of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle for monitoring done in the Panna Tiger Reserve (Madhya Pradesh), in collaboration with the Wildlife Institute of India and now has plan to extend to other tiger reserves too.
- 46. Assessment of Status, Density and Change in Forest Cover in and around tiger reserves of the Shivalik Gangetic Plain Landscape done in collaboration with the Forest Survey of India.

- 47. A Rhino Task Force has suggested measures to strengthen rhino protection in the Kaziranga Tiger Reserve.
- 48. In-principle approval has been accorded for creation of Rhino Protection Force at Kaziranga Tiger Reserve.
- 49. Supporting a health insurance scheme for forest guards in Kaziranga Tiger Reserve.
- 50. Fostering a voluntary group "Friends for Rhino" for eliciting public support for rhino conservation with active local participation around Kaziranga Tiger Reserve.
- 51. Initiative taken for collaboration with National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA) towards evolving an alert system in tiger reserves prone to natural disasters.
- 52. A joint report with Nepal and Bangladesh has been brought out on the assessment of tiger status in the terai arc landscape.
- 53. 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.
- 54. Guidelines for security audit of the tiger reserves have been finalised and is getting validated.
- 55. Tiger rich areas outside tiger reserves are being monitored or bestowing CA|TS certification.