

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1743
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.07.2023

Reports on the Death of Tiger/Leopard

1743. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether many cases have been reported from different States regarding killing of Tiger and Leopard recently, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has sought detailed report from the States, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of said animals died during the last one year and reasons for their deaths;
- (d) whether the State Governments have submitted their report to the Government in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken or advisory issued to the States for protection of these animals?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a), (b) & (c) As reported by States, the details of tiger mortality are at **Annexure-I**. The average life span of the tigers in the wild is generally 10-12 years and in natural ecosystem factors like old age, diseases, internecine fights, electrocution, snaring, drowning, road, rail hits etc. and a very high infant mortality observed in big cats including tigers accounts for majority of tiger deaths.

Details regarding leopard mortality in States are not collated at the Government of India level.

- (d) & (e) Yes Sir. The National Tiger Conservation Authority, through a dedicated Standard Operating Procedure, has a stringent protocol to ascribe cause to a tiger death, which is treated as unnatural, unless otherwise proved by the State concerned through submission of necropsy reports, histopathological and forensic assessments besides photographs and circumstantial evidences. It is only after a detailed analysis of these documents that the cause of death of tigers is ascertained. Further, funding assistance is provided under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats 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 and Utilisation Certificate duly submitted by the State Government.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a), (b) & (c) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1743 ON REPORTS ON THE DEATH OF TIGER/LEOPARD DUE FOR REPLY ON 31.07.2023

Number of tiger deaths in the country as reported by States, during last 5 years and current year

Year	Natural and other causes	Confirmed poaching	Unnatural but not poaching
2018	53	44	4
2019	66	27	3
2020	90	15	1
2021	101	18	8
2022	108	10	3
2023 (as on 22.07.2023)	98	12	0
