

CONVENTION SUR LE COMMERCE INTERNATIONAL DES ESPECES
DE FAUNE ET DE FLORE SAUVAGES MENACEES D'EXTINCTION



Soixante-cinquième session du Comité permanent
Genève (Suisse), 7 – 11 juillet 2014

Interprétation et application de la Convention

Commerce d'espèces et conservation

GRANDS FELINS D'ASIE

1. Le présent document a été préparé par le Secrétariat.
2. En annexe au présent document et dans la langue dans laquelle il a été soumis figure le rapport de l'Inde sur la mise en œuvre de la résolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16) *Conservation et commerce du tigre et des autres grands félins d'Asie de l'Annexe I*, en réponse à la Notification aux Parties n° 2013/037 du 27 août 2013. Reçu par le Secrétariat le 27 mai 2014, il n'a pas pu être pris en compte dans le document SC65 Doc. 38.

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Dr. S.S. GARBYAL



वन महानिदेशक एवं विशेष सचिव
भारत सरकार
पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FOREST & SPL. SECY.
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS

D.O. No. 4-35/2013/ WL-I

Dated: 19th May 2014

Dear Mr. Scanlon,

With reference to the 'Notification to Parties No. 2013/037', I have the pleasure to enclose herewith the response on questionnaire on the implementation of Resolution 12.5 (Rev. CoP 16) on the conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species for your kind perusal. I would like to state that India is committed to conservation and full protection of tigers and other Asian big cats and have been taking all necessary steps in this regard.

With best wishes

(S.S. Garbyal)

Management Authority of CITES, India

Mr. John Scanlon
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Encl: As above.

*Issued
21/5/14*



Questionnaire on the implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16) on Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species

RESPONSE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ON TIGERS

The Secretariat has created this questionnaire to assist Parties in responding to CITES Decision 16.68, paragraph a), which encourages the Parties to support the Secretariat in conducting a review of the implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16), for submission of a report at the 65th meeting of the Standing Committee (scheduled for July 2014). The Secretariat invites Parties to use this Questionnaire as the basis for the format of their reports on implementation of the Resolution, in order to facilitate analysis of the reports.

The Asian big cat species listed in Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16) are, the tiger (*Panthera tigris*), the snow leopard (*Uncia uncia*), the clouded leopard (*Neofelis nebulosa*), the leopard (*Panthera pardus*) within its Asian range, and the Asiatic lion (*Panthera leo persica*).

If your responses to the questions below vary for different species, please provide the requested information for each.

The range States for Asian big cat species include: Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea*, Georgia, India, Indonesia, Iraq*, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan*, Thailand, Turkey, Turkmenistan*, the United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam and Yemen.

* non-Party to CITES.

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| 1 | LEGISLATION |
| 1.1 | Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16), under URGES, paragraphs a) and b) |
| 1.1.1 | <p>Has your country adopted legislation that prohibits international commercial trade (import, export and re-export) in wild-taken specimens of Appendix-I Asian big cat species, and products labelled as, or claiming to contain, their parts and derivatives?</p> <p>YES.</p> |
| 1.1.2 | <p>If your answer to 1.1.1 is 'yes', specify the titles and provisions of such legislation, penalties (administrative, civil or criminal), and how the legislation is implemented. If your answer to 1.1.1 is 'no', explain the reasons for not adopting such legislation.</p> <p>The trade of all wildlife in India including trade of tiger parts and its products are regulated under the EXIM policy though the Directorate General of Foreign Trade of Ministry of Commerce under the Foreign Trade Development and Regulation (FTDR).</p> |

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| | <p>Act 1992.</p> <p>The EXIM policy has been incorporated with the provisions of CITES and Indian Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and is also linked with Indian Customs Act, 1962. All the species that are listed in the schedules of Wild Life (Protection), Act, 1972 are prohibited for traded except in few cases like research, zoo or in case any person in possession of ownership certificate stating that the scheduled species parts listed in the Wildlife Act is enquired before the enactment of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.</p> <p>India has enacted the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 which prohibits hunting and trade in the body parts or derivatives of all Asian big cats i.e. Tiger, Indian Lion, Leopard and Clouded Leopard. They have been accorded the highest degree of protection by keeping them in the Schedule-I species category in the Act.</p> <p>The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 prescribes stringent punishment for Hunting and Illegal trade. These are as follows:</p> <p>i) For hunting and illegal trade in wild animals belonging to Schedule-I: Minimum 3 years imprisonment extendable to 7 years and a minimum fine of INR 10,000.</p> <p>ii) In addition to the above punishments, the court trying the offence may also order the forfeiture of any equipment, vehicle or weapon to the State Government, cancel any wildlife licence or permit held by the person, as well as cancel the Arms licence and debar for an Arms licence for a period of 5 years.</p> <p>iii) There is also a provision for Forfeiture of Property of offenders who are awarded sentence of 3 years or more of imprisonment.</p> <p>The Wildlife (Protection) Act is implemented by Forest/Wildlife/Police Officers.</p> <p>Penalties under Custom Act, 1962</p> <p>Section 3(2) of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947 provides that all items (including fauna and flora) covered in the Import-Export Policy will be deemed to be covered under Section 11 of the Customs Act, 1962. As a consequence, all cases of violation of the Import-Export Policy in general, and CITES in particular, constitute an</p> |

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| | offence under the Customs Act and are dealt with by the Custom Officials. |
| 1.1.3 | <p>What are the minimum and maximum penalties that can be imposed in accordance with your national legislation, upon conviction of a person for the illegal trade in or illegal possession of specimens of Asian big cat species?</p> <p>As at point No. 1.1.2</p> |
| 1.1.4 | <p>Does your national legislation clearly define the administrative responsibilities of the various government agencies responsible for regulating wildlife trade within and outside of protected areas and in outlets for parts and derivatives, such as in wildlife markets and shops, etc.? If your answer is 'yes', explain the division of responsibilities.</p> <p>The administrative responsibilities for implementing the Wildlife (Protection) Act inside the PA lie with the wildlife officials and outside PA with Forest and Police department officials.</p> <p>All cases of violation of the Import-Export Policy in general, and CITES in particular, constitute an offence under the Customs Act and are dealt with by the Custom Officials.</p> |
| 1.1.5. | <p>Has your country voluntarily introduced any measures to prohibit internal trade in Asian big cat parts and derivatives? If 'yes', describe these measures and how they are implemented.</p> <p>Any kind of trade in Asian big cats is prohibited under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 in the country as at Point No. 1.1.2.</p> |
| 2 | NATIONAL ENFORCEMENT |
| 2.1 | Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16), under the first RECOMMENDS, paragraph a) |
| 2.1.1 | <p>Which enforcement agencies in your country are responsible for the detection, prevention and investigation of crime involving Asian big cat species?</p> <p>Several enforcement agencies like: Forest & Wildlife Departments, Police Department, Customs, Central Bureau of Investigation and Wildlife Crime Control Bureau are responsible for the detection, prevention and investigation of crime involving Asian big cat species.</p> |
| 2.1.2 | <p>Have anti-poaching teams or enforcement units been established in your country to combat wildlife crime?</p> <p>Yes. Tiger Protection Force (TPF) units, involving local people, Home Guards and ex-Army personnel have been created at all our 44 Tiger Reserves in the country to complement the existing frontline staff. We have also deployed Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF) units, dedicated for anti poaching activities, in 4 sensitive tiger reserves.</p> |

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| 2.1.3 | <p>If your answer to 2.1.2 is 'yes', indicate the number of staff assigned to work in anti-poaching teams or enforcement units.</p> <p>In STPF: 448 personnel; in TPF: not less than 200 persons/watchers per tiger reserve in addition to the regular frontline staff.</p> |
| 2.1.4 | <p>If your answer to 2.1.2 is 'yes', indicate whether these units are adequately resourced to perform their duties. If they are not, indicate what their needs are.</p> <p>Yes. These units are adequately supported by vehicles, arms, patrolling camps, kits etc.</p> |
| 2.1.5 | <p>If your answer to 2.1.2 is 'yes', indicate to what extent these anti-poaching teams and enforcement units engage in activities to counter the illegal killing of and trade in Asian big cat specimens.</p> <p>These units are engaged in anti-poaching activities on daily basis while taking note of intelligence inputs.</p> |
| 2.1.6 | <p>Do your national enforcement agencies require any special permission to cooperate with each other, for example to share intelligence? If your answer is yes, kindly explain if this requirement benefits or poses any challenges to effective cooperation?</p> <p>No.</p> |
| 2.1.7 | <p>Is there any formal multi-agency cooperation structure at the national level that brings law enforcement authorities and relevant departments, such as police, Customs, environmental agencies, revenue departments and judicial authorities, together to combat wildlife crime and to promote information and intelligence sharing? If your answer is 'yes', describe how the structure operates.</p> <p>Yes. The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau is mandated for the coordination at national level by organising periodic meetings.</p> |
| 2.1.8 | <p>Have joint investigations involving different enforcement agencies in your country been conducted in relation to illegal trade in Asian big cats? If your answer is 'yes', provide a summary of the investigations and their outcomes (excluding sensitive information). Also include information on best practices identified if any.</p> <p>Several cases of tiger poaching/trade have been resolved involving WCCB, CBI, Forest/Wildlife, Police departments. During the year 2013 the two notable cases are as below:</p> <p>1. In a joint effort by the Forest, WCCB and Special Task Force of the Police Department, during 2013 in Uttar Pradesh, poaching of two tigers was unearthed, tiger parts and skins recovered and all persons involved arrested.</p> |

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| 2.2 | Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16), under URGES, paragraph e) |
| 2.2.1 | <p>Do your national enforcement authorities receive any training to enhance the effectiveness of anti-poaching patrols, for example, training in the use of the Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) or the Monitoring System for Tigers'-Intensive Protection and Ecological Status (M-STRIPES). If your answer is 'yes', indicate whether this training is included in the training curriculum of the enforcement authorities, and elaborate on the nature of the training and on the benefits or challenges associated with such training.</p> <p>Curriculum on anti-poaching activities is a part of the training of frontline enforcement and STPF. M-STRIPES (Smart Patrolling) is being implemented in 7 sensitive tiger reserves on pilot basis. The same will be extended to all tiger reserves by the year 2015.</p> |
| 2.2.2 | <p>Do your national enforcement authorities responsible for the prevention and investigation of wildlife crime receive any training on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Identification of Asian big cat specimens; b) Information and intelligence gathering and management; c) Risk-profiling and targeting of offenders; d) Identification of suspicious financial transactions; e) Crime-scene management; f) Evidence collection; g) The use of wildlife forensics; and h) Any other wildlife crime investigation techniques (specify which). <p>Yes. Special customised regular courses are organised for custom officials at the Wildlife Institute of India. The National Tiger Conservation Authority & Wildlife Crime Control Bureau organise refresher courses on anti-poaching, forensics, investigation and intelligence.</p> |
| 2.2.3 | <p>If your answer is to 2.2.2 is 'yes', indicate whether this training is included in the standard training curriculum of staff, or if it is delivered on an ad hoc basis. Please elaborate on the benefits or challenges associated with such training.</p> <p>For the Forest/ Wildlife and Custom officials it is included in their regular training course. For police officials it is ad-hoc with respect to wildlife enforcement</p> |
| 2.3 | Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16), under URGES, paragraph c) |
| 2.3.1 | <p>Describe any innovative enforcement methods that may have been introduced in your country to combat illegal trade in Asian big cat specimens, for example the use of new technology, wildlife forensics, specialized investigation techniques, anti-money laundering and asset-recovery legislation, etc.</p> |

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| | <p>1. Electronic surveillance on 24x7 basis is being used to generate alerts on poachers movement in two tiger reserves.</p> <p>2. Dog squads are being used in sensitive areas</p> <p>3. Information technology for tracking offender's movement/location etc is in use.</p> <p>4. Wildlife Forensics are used.</p> |
| 2.3.2 | <p>Has your country implemented any measures to strengthen enforcement efforts in key border regions to prevent illegal trade in Asian big cat specimens?</p> <p>Yes. The border protection agencies are involved in joint patrolling in sensitive areas besides sensitizing them on illegal trafficking.</p> |
| 3 | INTERNATIONAL ENFORCEMENT COOPERATION |
| 3.1 | Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16), under URGES, paragraph c), and under the first RECOMMENDS, paragraph d) |
| 3.1.1 | <p>Does your country participate in any regional wildlife enforcement network (WEN)? If 'yes', which ones and through which national agencies?</p> <p>Yes. India participates in the activities of SAWEN and INTERPOL through WCCB, Wildlife Division (Ministry of Environment & Forests), NTCA and CBI.</p> |
| 3.1.2 | <p>Is your country party to any bilateral or multilateral agreements, memoranda of understanding or other similar instruments on enforcement cooperation to combat illegal trade in Asian big cat species? If it is, describe the nature of these agreements, for example indicating whether they relate to the exchange of information, skills sharing, joint training, etc.</p> <p>India has bilateral protocol/joint resolutions with China, Nepal, Bangladesh and Bhutan which, <i>inter alia</i> involves cooperation on combating illegal trade in tiger body parts and derivatives.</p> |
| 3.1.3 | <p>Has your country established any cooperative bilateral or multilateral arrangements with other countries for the management of shared wildlife populations and of protected habitats with common boundaries, in order to achieve more effective control over illegal international trade in specimens of Asian big cat species? If your answer is 'yes', please provide details.</p> <p>Yes. Through joint resolutions and bilateral protocol, India is doing assessment/ joint monitoring of tiger population with neighbouring countries like Nepal, Bangladesh and Bhutan.</p> |
| 3.2 | Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16), under the first RECOMMENDS, paragraph e) |
| 3.2.1 | <p>Has your country, between 2010 and 2013, convened or participated in any regional workshop on law enforcement needs associated with illegal cross-border movement of specimens of Asian big cat species?</p> |

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| | <p>Yes. A training workshop on Strengthening Wildlife Law Enforcement for Wildlife Protection in South Asia (for SAARC countries) was jointly organised by the SAWEN, TRAFFIC India, Global Tiger Forum, State Government of Gujarat and Government of India in July, 2011.</p> <p>The Government of India, CBI, NTCA, WCCB and INTERPOL jointly organised an international training workshop on combating wildlife crime at New Delhi during 2013.</p> |
| 3.2.2 | <p>If your answer to 3.2.1 is 'yes', indicate which enforcement agencies responsible for the detection, prevention and investigation of wildlife crime in your country participated in these regional workshops.</p> <p>Forest/Wildlife Departments, Police Department, CBI and WCCB.</p> |
| 3.2.3 | <p>If your answer to 3.2.1 is 'yes', indicate whether these workshops covered any of the following subjects:</p> <p>a) Extent of illegal trade in Asian big cat species; b) Smuggling routes used for illegal trade in Asian big cat species; c) Methods used to smuggle specimens of Asian big cat species; and d) Final consumer markets for Asian big cats (live specimens and parts and derivatives).</p> <p>Yes.</p> |
| 4 | RECORDING OF INFORMATION |
| 4.1 | Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16), under URGES, paragraph d) |
| 4.1.1 | <p>Has your country put in place a national system for recording information on the illegal trade in Asian big cats? If 'yes', please indicate:</p> <p>a) what sort of data is recorded; b) how the data are collected; c) which authorities are authorized to enter information into the system; d) whether the data are analysed; e) any other relevant information.</p> <p>India has launched unique system of online reporting of tiger mortality/poaching/seizure/trade relating to tiger in association with the TRAFFIC-India (www.tigernet.in). Number/place of tiger mortality/ body parts seizure are available in public domain while other details relating to investigation and prosecution are available to registered users like officials of tiger reserves. Data so collected are regularly analysed.</p> |
| 4.1.2 | <p>If your answer to 4.1.1 is 'no', explain what has prevented the implementation of such a system until now and indicate whether its implementation is foreseen.</p> <p>Not applicable.</p> |
| 4.1.3 | <p>If your answer to 4.1.1 is 'yes', elaborate on best practices identified, if any.</p> <p>As at 4.1.1</p> |
| 4.1.4 | <p>If your answer to 4.1.1 is 'yes', has this national system resulted in increased information</p> |

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| | <p>sharing leading to coordinated investigations and enforcement? If your answer is 'yes', provide an example if possible. If your answer is 'no', elaborate on the possible reasons for this.</p> <p>Yes. The information on seizure/mortality is easily available to all enforcement agencies which help in protection strategy.</p> |
| 5 | CAPTIVE BREEDING |
| 5.1 | Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16), under URGES, paragraph g) |
| 5.1.1 | <p>Are Asian big cat species bred in captivity in your country?</p> <p>Not in wild/ in-situ conservation areas or any ex-situ facility but for recognized zoos.</p> |
| 5.1.2 | <p>If your answer to 5.1.1 is yes, provide detailed information on the management practices and controls that have been put in place to prevent parts and derivatives from entering illegal trade through these facilities.</p> <p>Not applicable.</p> |
| 6 | STOCKPILES |
| 6.1 | Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16), under URGES, paragraph h) |
| 6.1.1 | <p>Are there, in your country, stocks of parts and derivatives of Asian big cat species (such as tiger bones)? Exclude pre-Convention specimens from your answer.</p> <p>NO.</p> |
| 6.1.2 | <p>If your answer to 6.1.1 is 'yes', explain what steps have been taken to consolidate and ensure adequate control of these stocks.</p> <p>Not applicable.</p> |
| 6.1.3 | <p>Have parts and derivatives of Asian big cat species been lost from stockpiles in your country since 1 January 2010? If your answer is 'yes', describe the incidents and the results of any follow-up investigations.</p> <p>Not applicable.</p> |
| 6.1.4 | <p>Has your country destroyed stocks of parts and derivatives of Asian big cat species?</p> <p>Not applicable.</p> |
| 7 | CONSERVATION MEASURES |
| 7.1 | Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16), under INSTRUCES, paragraph a) |
| 7.1.1 | <p>Provide detailed information on the status of Asian big cats in the wild in your country, including comparative statistics on population growth or decline.</p> <p>The country level tiger population has shown an increasing trend with a population estimate of 1706, lower and upper limits being 1520 and 1909 respectively in the</p> |

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| | <p>recent all India estimation (2010), as compared to the last country level estimation of 2006, with an estimate of 1411, lower and upper limits being 1165 and 1657 respectively. The third round of such country level scientific assessment (2014) is in progress.</p> <p>The All India tiger estimation is carried out once in every four years. Based on the Tiger Task Force approval, a refined double sampling method using camera traps in a statistical framework was first used in 2006 country level tiger assessment. The second round of such an assessment was completed in 2010.</p> <p>The 2010 assessment reports a countrywide increase of 20% in tiger numbers, with an estimated number of 1706 (1520-1909). There is a decline of 12.6% in tiger occupancy from connecting habitats. This has happened in peripheral and dispersal areas having low densities outside tiger reserves and tiger source populations.</p> <p>There is a decline of 12.6% in tiger occupancy from connecting habitats. This has happened in peripheral and dispersal areas having low densities outside tiger reserves and tiger source populations. The increase in tiger numbers is due to the fact that tiger populations in Uttarakhand, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Kerala and Assam have shown an increase in tiger density. The inclusion of Sunderbans, some portions of North East and parts of Maharashtra have also contributed to the increase.</p> <p>The 2010 National Tiger Assessment has several innovations over previous assessments. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnerships with civil society organisations such as Wildlife Trust of India, Aaranyak, and World Wildlife Fund for Nature-India. Additional technical expertise from Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB). • Local communities involved in data collection and analysis. • Genetic analysis to estimate tiger populations from faecal samples. • Along with tigers, co-predators, prey, and habitat quality assessed. • Pioneering attempt to estimate tiger populations in Sunderbans Tiger Reserve (West Bengal) using satellite telemetry and sign surveys. |
| 7.1.2 | <p>Provide detailed information on ongoing activities in support of Asian big cat conservation in your country.</p> <p>The Government of India through the National Tiger Conservation Authority / Project Tiger has taken a number of steps in this regard, which interalia, include:</p> |

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| | <p data-bbox="349 258 521 289"><u>Legal steps</u></p> <ol data-bbox="349 348 1435 701" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="349 348 1435 520">1. Amendment of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 in 2006 to provide enabling provisions for constituting the National Tiger Conservation Authority and the Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau.<li data-bbox="349 573 1435 701">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. <p data-bbox="349 753 672 785"><u>Administrative steps</u></p> <ol data-bbox="349 844 1435 1879" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="349 844 1435 1108">3. 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.<li data-bbox="349 1161 1435 1514">4. Constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority 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.<li data-bbox="349 1566 1435 1738">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.<li data-bbox="349 1791 1435 1879">6. The in-principle approval has been accorded by the National Tiger Conservation Authority for creation of two new tiger reserves, and |

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| | <p>the sites are: Ratapani (Madhya Pradesh) and Sunabeda (Odisha). Final approval has been accorded for creation of three more new tiger reserves namely Pilibhit (Uttar Pradesh), Kudremukh (Karnataka) and Rajaji (Uttarakhand). The State Governments have been advised to send proposals for declaring the following areas as tiger reserves: (i) Bor (Maharashtra), (ii) Suhelwa (Uttar Pradesh), (iii) Guru Ghasidas National Park (Chhattisgarh), (iv) Mhadei Sanctuary (Goa) and (v) Srivilliputhur Grizzled Giant Squirrel / Megamalai Wildlife Sanctuaries / Varushanadu Valley (Tamil Nadu).</p> <p>7. 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 INR: 100,000 per family to INR: 10,00,000 per family) on voluntary basis, 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.</p> <p>8. 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.</p> <p>9. The 17 tiger States have notified the core/critical tiger habitat (36988.28 sq. km.), and the buffer/peripheral area (29789.06 sq.km.) of all the 44 tiger reserves in the country, under section 38V of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, as amended in 2006.</p> <p><u>Financial steps</u></p> <p>10. 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</p> |

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| | <p>enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the State Governments for providing effective protection to wild animals.</p> <p><u>International Cooperation</u></p> <p>11. 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.</p> <p>12. A protocol has been signed in September, 2011 with Bangladesh for conservation of the Royal Bengal Tiger of the Sunderban.</p> <p>13. A sub-group on tiger and leopard conservation has been constituted for cooperation with the Russian Federation.</p> <p>14. A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.</p> <p><u>Active Management:</u></p> <p>15. 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. A reintroduced tigress has recently littered and two cubs have also been camera trapped. The tiger reintroduction initiative at Panna (MP) has also been very successful and reintroduced tigers are breeding.</p> <p>16. 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.</p> <p><u>Creation of Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF)</u></p> <p>17. The policy initiatives announced by the Finance Minister in his</p> |

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| | <p>Budget Speech of the 29th February, 2008, inter alia, contains action points relating to tiger protection. Based on the one time grant of INR: 500 million provided to the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) for raising, arming and deploying a Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF), the proposal for the said force has been approved by the competent authority for 13 tiger reserves. The States of Karnataka and Maharashtra have already created and deployed the STPF.</p> <p>18. 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.</p> <p><u>Recent initiatives</u></p> <p>19. Implementing a tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with tiger States, linked to fund flows for effective implementation of tiger conservation initiatives.</p> <p>20. Special crack teams sent to tiger reserves affected by left wing extremism and low population status of tiger and its prey.</p> <p>21. Chief Ministers of States having tiger reserves affected by left wing extremism and low population status of tiger and its prey addressed for taking special initiatives.</p> <p>22. 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.</p> <p>23. Steps taken for involvement of Non-Governmental Experts in the ongoing all India tiger estimation.</p> <p>24. Initiatives taken for improving the field delivery through capacity building of field officials, apart from providing incentives.</p> |

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| | <p>25. A report on Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) of Tiger Reserves was released on 28th July, 2011, containing the second round of independent assessment based on refined criteria done in 2010-11 for 39 tiger reserves. Out of 39 tiger reserves, 15 were rated as 'very good', 12 as 'good', 8 as 'satisfactory' and 4 as 'poor'.</p> <p>26. Providing special assistance for mitigation of human-tiger conflicts in problematic areas.</p> <p>27. Regional Offices of the National Tiger Conservation Authority are operational at Nagpur, Bengaluru and Guwahati.</p> <p>28. 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.</p> <p>29. A 'Standard Operating Procedure' for dealing with straying tigers in human dominated landscape has been issued.</p> <p>30. A 'Standard Operating Procedure' for disposing tiger/leopard carcass/body parts has been issued.</p> <p>31. Several new components were added to the Project, viz.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Change in the funding pattern in respect of North Eastern States (90:10) (ii) Raising compensation for man-animal conflict to INR: 100,000 (iii) Acquisition of private land for making the core/critical tiger habitat inviolate (iv) Establishment of Tiger Safari, interpretation/awareness centres under the existing component of 'co-existence agenda in buffer/fringe areas', and management of such centres through the respective Panchayati Raj Institutions (v) Re-introduction of Cheetah |

| No. | Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16) |
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| | <p>32. Launching of Phase-IV tiger reserve level, continuous monitoring of tigers using camera traps and building up data on photo captures of individual tigers.</p> <p>33. Launching the creation of a national repository of camera trap photo IDs of individual tigers.</p> <p>34. In-principle approval for use of CAMPA funds towards village relocation from core areas.</p> <p>35. Completion of 'e-surveillance' project in Corbett.</p> <p>36. 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.</p> <p>37. Under active management, permission accorded for translocation of two tigresses from Ranthambhore to Sariska (Rajasthan), besides one straying sub-adult male tiger from Panna to Satpura (Madhya Pradesh), and one straying tiger from Pilibhit to Dudhwa Tiger Reserve (Uttar Pradesh).</p> <p>38. A bilateral arrangement has been recently formalized with Bangladesh on tiger conservation. Our delegations are interacting with Nepal and China within the framework of existing bilateral arrangements. A sub-group on tiger/leopard conservation has been constituted for cooperation with the Russian Federation, which has met recently.</p> <p>39. Field level workshops for capacity building of field officers to deal with straying tigers have been organized at Tadoba and Dudhwa Tiger Reserves (2013).</p> <p>40. NTCA teams sent for field appraisal of tiger deaths, Project Tiger implementation etc.</p> |

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| | <p>41. Process underway for providing enabling provisions in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, to strengthen our implementation of the CITES and towards enhancement of penalties for contravention of provisions of the Act.</p> <p>42. Kawal (Andhra Pradesh), Sathyamangalam (Tamil Nadu), Mukandra Hills (Darrah, Jawahar Sagar and Chambal Wildlife Sanctuaries) (Rajasthan) and Nawegaon-Nagzira (Maharashtra) have been notified by the State Governments as Tiger Reserve.</p> <p>43. Action has been initiated for the next round (2014) of country level status assessment of tiger, co-predators, prey and habitat, using the refined methodology, in collaboration with tiger States and the Wildlife Institute of India.</p> <p>44. Action has been initiated for the next round (2014) of Independent Management Effectiveness Evaluation of Tiger Reserves.</p> |
| 7.2 | Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16), under URGES, paragraph i) |
| 7.2.1 | <p>Does your country support or participate in any international conservation programme, such as the Global Tiger Forum, the Snow Leopard Network, the Global Tiger Initiative?</p> <p>Yes, India is founder member of the Global Tiger Forum and is actively participating in the GTI.</p> |
| 8 | EDUCATION, AWARENESS, OUTREACH, CAPACITY BUILDING |
| 8.1 | Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16), under the first RECOMMENDS, paragraph b) |
| 8.1.1 | <p>Have education or awareness campaigns directed at urban and rural communities and other targeted groups been conducted in your country on the ecological and cultural significance of Asian big cats, and the significance for ecotourism of these species, their prey and habitats?</p> <p>Awareness campaign have been conducted on regular basis by the Government and Private sector/NGOs/Media groups for the tiger conservation.</p> |
| 8.1.2 | <p>If your answer to 8.1.1 is 'yes', describe when and where these campaigns have been conducted, their nature and effectiveness, and best practices or challenges identified, if any.</p> |

| No. | Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16) |
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| | <p>Under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger, funding assistance is provided to all tiger reserves for awareness raising campaign every year. In a big way school children and teachers are involved in these programmes. Media groups conduct awareness campaign every year on tiger conservation.</p> <p>Several NGOs also conduct awareness campaign on tiger conservation.</p> |
| 8.2 | Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16), under the first RECOMMENDS, paragraph c) |
| 8.2.1 | <p>Have measures been put in place to increase awareness of wildlife crime and illegal wildlife trade among prosecution and judicial authorities in your country? If your answer is 'yes', please elaborate, indicating whether such activities included specific reference to Asian big cat species.</p> <p>Yes. Regular sensitization workshops are organized by the WCCB and NGOs like TRAFFIC India are involved in it.</p> |
| 8.3 | Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16), under the first RECOMMENDS, paragraph f) |
| 8.3.1 | <p>Have studies been conducted in your country to examine the motivation behind the illegal killing of Asian big cats?</p> <p>The main motivation for killing tigers is the demand for their body parts/ derivatives across the border, besides revenge killing.</p> |
| 8.3.2 | <p>If your answer to 8.3.1 is 'yes', have these studies resulted in the recommendation of any measures to address this motivation? If so, describe these measures.</p> <p>Timely and adequate payment of compensation for loss of cattle or human life is being ensured.</p> |
| 9 | DEMAND REDUCTION |
| 9.1 | Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16), under the second RECOMMENDS, paragraph a) |
| 9.1.1 | <p>Have programmes been implemented in your country to work with traditional medicine communities and industries to develop and implement strategies for gradually replacing, reducing and eventually eliminating the use of Asian big cat parts and derivatives?</p> <p>Tiger body parts or derivatives are not used in traditional medicine communities and industries in India.</p> |
| 9.1.2 | <p>If your answer to 9.1.1 is 'yes', describe the nature and results of these programmes. If your answer is 'no', explain what has prevented the implementation of such programmes.</p> <p>Not applicable to India.</p> |
| 9.2 | Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16), under the second RECOMMENDS, paragraph b) |
| 9.2.1 | <p>Have measures been taken in your country to remove references to parts and derivatives of Appendix-I Asian big cats from the official pharmacopoeia and to include acceptable substitute products that do not affect the survival of other wild species?</p> |

| No. | Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16) |
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| | Not applicable to India. |
| 9.2.2 | If your answer to 9.2.1 is 'yes', describe these measures, how they have been implemented, the results achieved, and best practices identified, if any. Not applicable to India. |
| 9.2.3 | Have programmes been implemented in your country to educate the industry and user groups in order to eliminate the use of substances derived from Appendix-I Asian big cats and to promote the adoption of appropriate alternatives? Not applicable to India. |
| 9.2.4 | If your answer to 9.2.3 is 'yes', describe these programmes, how they have been implemented, the results achieved, and best practices identified, if any. Not applicable to India. |
| 9.3 | Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16), under the second RECOMMENDS, paragraph c) |
| 9.3.1 | Have education and awareness campaigns been carried out in your country to eliminate illegal trade in and use of illegally acquired Asian big cat skins as trophies, ornaments and items of clothing, or for the production of other materials? Yes |
| 9.3.2 | If your answer to 9.3.1 is 'yes', describe these campaigns, how they have been implemented, the results achieved, and best practices identified, if any. Through government notifications and media. |

At its 16th meeting (Bangkok, 2013), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 16.70 on *Asian big cats* (Felidae spp.), which includes the following text:

The Secretariat shall, subject to the availability of external funds, in cooperation with partner organizations in the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime and, as appropriate, other experts and organizations:

- a) *arrange national seminars in Appendix-I Asian big cat range States, involving all relevant enforcement agencies, to promote a multi-disciplinary approach that will facilitate improved coordination and cooperation in the detection, investigation and prosecution of wildlife crime offences;*

The following questions are designed to help the Secretariat in implementing this Decision.

| No. | NATIONAL SEMINARS IN APPENDIX-I ASIAN BIG CAT RANGE STATES |
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| 10 | Decision 16.70, paragraph a) |
| 10.1 | Has your country hosted any national seminar similar to those contemplated by Decision 16.70 during the period 2010 to 2013? Elaborate if your answer is 'yes'. |

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| | Yes. As at point No. 3.2.1. |
| 10.2 | <p>Would a national seminar such as those contemplated by Decision 16.70 benefit enforcement authorities in your country? Please explain your answer.</p> <p>Yes, it would definitely help the enforcement agencies in understanding the latest tools and techniques in wildlife crime investigation</p> |
| 10.3 | <p>If your answer to 10.2 is 'yes', can funding to host such a seminar be secured from your national budget or any international conservation programmes, such as those referred to in Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16), under "URGES", paragraph i)?</p> <p>Possibilities of co-hosting & funding may be explored with organizations like NTCA & WCCB OF Government of India and Global Tiger Forum.</p> |
| 10.4 | <p>Provide the full name and contact details of a focal point in your country with whom the Secretariat can liaise in connection with the implementation of Decision 16.70, paragraph a).</p> <p><u>FOR TIGERS:</u></p> <p>Mr SP Yadav, Deputy Inspector General, National Tiger Conservation Authority, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, Bikaner House, Annexe-5, Shahjahan Road, New Delhi-110011. Tel: +91-11-23389883, e-mail: jdntca@gmail.com</p> |
| 10.5 | <p>Provide any additional information, comments or suggestions that you would like to bring to the attention of the Secretariat in relation to Decision 16.70, paragraph a), or questions 10.1-10.4.</p> <p>1. Barring India and very few Tiger Range Countries, scientific assessment of tiger population, status of prey and habitat has not been done. Without having a baseline data/information the conservation efforts cannot be implemented.</p> <p>2. Except India and very few Tiger Range Countries, no TRC is taking up the regular monitoring of the tiger population, status of prey and habitat.</p> <p>3. Responses to the Notification 2012/ 054 and strict compliance of CITES decision 14.69 and Conf. Res. 12.5 (Rev COP 15), while ensuring urgent enforcement actions to end all trade in tiger and other Asian big cat body parts and derivatives must be ensured.</p> |