

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 156
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.07.2026

Tiger and Elephant Population

156. SMT. JUNE MALIAH:

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

- (a) the latest population of tigers and elephants in the country;
- (b) whether there has been any increase or decline in their population during the last three years;
- (c) the number of deaths of tigers and elephants due to poaching, train accidents and electrocution during the said period; and
- (d) the measures taken by the Government to prevent such death?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) The tiger population has increased as per the All India Tiger Estimation done in 2022, with an estimated number of 3682 (range 3167-3925) as compared to the 2018 estimation of 2967 (range 2603-3346) and the details are at **Annexure-I**.

The State-wise details of wild elephants in the country, as per the latest “Status of Elephants in India: DNA-Based Synchronous All India Population Estimation (SAIEE) 2022-25” is provided in **Annexure-II**. This nationwide estimate uses DNA-based mark-recapture for the first time in India. Given the methodological changes, it is not comparable to past figures and may be treated as a new monitoring baseline for further research, monitoring and estimation.

(c) As reported by States, the details of tiger deaths during last three years, are as under:-

Causes	Tiger		
	2023	2024	2025
Poaching (confirmed cases till date as per investigation)	39	25	17
Train Accidents	2	3	2
Electrocution	16	4	4

As reported by States, the details of elephant deaths during last three years, are as under:-

Causes	Elephant		
	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Poaching	10	18	10
Train Accidents	17	12	22

Electrocution	94	104	80
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(d) The steps taken by the Government of India through the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) for the conservation and protection of tigers, *inter alia*, include measures like providing funding assistance to States under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme Project Tiger & Elephant for habitat protection, infrastructure, anti-poaching operations, deployment of Tiger Protection Forces (TPF/STPF); strict vigilance & surveillance, antipoaching operations and intelligence gathering, technological interventions, community involvement through eco-development activities, monitoring through gadgets like camera traps etc.; putting in place security plan, executing security audit besides using patrolling and ecological status revealing application viz. M-STrIPES (Monitoring System for Tigers Intensive-Protection & Ecological Status) and having bilateral collaboration with neighbouring countries like Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh in the matters of poaching and seizure of derivatives of tiger etc.

In addition, Ministry has taken the various measures to prevent elephant deaths, which *inter alia*, include providing financial and technical assistance to States/UTs under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger & Elephant for elephant conservation, habitat protection, conflict mitigation, ex-gratia payment in cases of human death in order to prevent conflict situations, strict vigilance and surveillance in elephant abundant areas. Besides, in order to avoid accidents due to train hit, the Ministry has identified 77 priority railway stretches and recommended 705 mitigation structures which have been shared with the Railways and States for implementation besides constituting a permanent co-ordination committee with the Ministry of Railways apart from having regular inter-ministerial meeting with the Ministry of Railways and Ministry of Power and organizing regular capacity building programmes for Railway, Power and Forest officials.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 156 ON TIGER AND ELEPHANT POPULATION DUE FOR REPLY ON 20/07/2026

Details of tiger estimation pertaining to tiger landscapes in the country, for the years 2018 and 2022 (As per All India Tiger Estimation Reports)

State	Tiger Population	
	2018	2022
<i>Shivalik-Gangetic Plain Landscape Complex</i>		
Uttarakhand	442	560
Uttar Pradesh	173	205
Bihar	31	54
Shivalik Gangetic	646	819
<i>Central Indian Landscape Complex and Eastern Ghats Landscape Complex</i>		
Andhra Pradesh	48	63
Telangana	26	21
Chhattisgarh	19	17
Madhya Pradesh	526	785
Maharashtra	312	444
Odisha	28	20
Rajasthan	69	88
Jharkhand	5	1
Central India	1033	1439
<i>Western Ghats Landscape Complex</i>		
Karnataka	524	563
Kerala	190	213
Tamil Nadu	264	306
Goa	3	5
Western Ghats	981	1087
<i>North Eastern Hills and Brahmaputra Flood Plains</i>		
Assam	190	229
Arunachal Pradesh	29	9
Mizoram	0	0
Nagaland	0	0
Northern West Bengal	0	2
North East Hills, and Brahmaputra	219	236
<i>Sunderbans</i>	88	101
TOTAL	2967	3682

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 156 ON TIGER AND ELEPHANT POPULATION DUE FOR REPLY ON 20/07/2026

State-wise wild elephants in the country as per the report “*Status of Elephants in India: DNA Based Synchronous All India Population Estimation of Elephants (SAIEE)*”

Sl. No.	State/Landscape	Population	SE **	Lower 95% CI*	Upper 95% CI
1.	Karnataka	6,013	623	4,792	7,235
2.	Tamil Nadu	3,136	229	2,688	3,585
3.	Kerala	2,785	208	2,378	3,193
4.	Jharkhand	217	35	149	286
5.	Odisha	912	170	579	1,246
6.	Madhya Pradesh	97	19	60	135
7.	Chhattisgarh	451	79	297	606
8.	Maharashtra (Western Ghats & Gadchiroli)	63	8	48	79
9.	West Bengal (South)	31	5	22	41
10.	Andhra Pradesh	120	9	103	138
11.	Uttarakhand	1,792	148	1,502	2,083
12.	Uttar Pradesh	257	37	103	330
13.	Bihar	13	NA	NA	NA
14.	Arunachal Pradesh	617	32	555	680
15.	Assam	4,159	390	3,395	4,924
16.	Manipur	9	1	8	11
17.	Meghalaya	677	47	585	770
18.	Mizoram	16	1	13	18
19.	Nagaland	252	23	207	298
20.	Tripura	153	7	140	167
21.	West Bengal (North)	676	69	541	812
	Total	22,446	2,140	18,255	26,645

*CI : Confidence Interval

** SE : Standard Error
