

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3745
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2005
SEIZURE OF TIGER SKINS AND BONES
Subba Shri Moni Kumar

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

- (a) whether tiger skins and bones were recently seized from a police van by the Forest Staff of Assam's tiger rich Sonai-Rupai sanctuary around August 1, 2005;
- (b) if so, the details of the seizure;
- (c) whether any gang of poachers or smugglers has been found operating in the area; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the officials and others apprehended in connection therewith?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a)&(b) Yes Sir. As per information received from State, the Beat Officer of Gabharu Beat, Kalamati, Sonitpur West Division, Tezpur seized a tiger skin alongwith bones (10 kg) from a police vehicle (Mahindra Van Regd. No. AS 30-2585) on 26.07.2005 at 4.30 P.M at Kalamati Forest Check gate, near the boundary of the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary. One person has been arrested and produced before the Hon'ble Court in this regard.

(c)&(d) No such information has come to light. However, the police personnel in-charge of the vehicle referred above has been placed under suspension by the State and investigation of the case has been initiated.