

ing to strengthen the existing facilities available at Hanuman Vyayam Paraharak Sport Institute at Amraoti; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and assistance provided during the last three years and proposed during 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) No, Sir, only a Sub-Centre of the Western Regional Centre of Sports Authority of India is in the process of being set up at Aurangabad.

(b) About 1000 acres of land has been handed over by the State Government of Maharashtra to the Sports Authority of India who have already constructed a compound wall and internal roads facilities like multi-purpose hall for gymnastic, table tennis, badminton, wrestling and boxing, besides a Sports Hostel, administrative block, two tennis courts, volleyball, football, hockey and Kabaddi, etc., are to be developed.

There is no other proposal for such facilities in the Vidarbha region.

(c) No stadium has been constructed or is proposed to be constructed by the Government in Maharashtra, and no stadium is being managed and utilised by the Sports Authority of India.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Question does not arise.

Progress Regarding Tiger Project in Maharashtra

7757. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress achieved

under Project Tiger in Melghat district Amraoti (Maharashtra) so far;

(b) the proposal for 1990-91 and Eighth Five Year Plan;

(c) whether complaints have been received from villagers and tribals regarding killing of live-stock/men by wild animals;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NILAMANI ROURAY): (a) The Melghat Tiger Reserve in Amravati District of Maharashtra state was established during 1973-74. It covers 1618 Sq. Kms. of the forest area comprising of 448 Sq. Kms. as core area and remaining as buffer area. The important wild animals found in this Tiger Reserve are tiger, leopard, sloth bear, gaur, sambar, cheetah, four horned antelope, barking deer, wild boar, blue bull, etc. The hilly deciduous forests of this reserve, dominated by teak and bamboo, represent the natural habitat of wild animals of this region. The area under Melghat Tiger Reserve is receiving protection against damaging factors like fire, illicit tree felling, poaching of wild animals, soil erosion, grazing, encroachment and unregulated tourism. The estimated number of tigers in Melghat Tiger Reserve has increased from 27 in 1972 to 77 in 1989.

(b) The Project Tiger is a long term conservation scheme. During 1990-91 the management of Melghat Tiger Reserve will be continued on the pattern of Seventh Five Year Plan. The proposals for Eighth Five Year Plan are not finalised.

(c) to (e). Details are being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.