

## **GUIDELINES FOR CONSTITUTING THE SPECIAL TIGER PROTECTION FORCE (STPF)**

### **1. Preamble**

The policy initiatives announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget speech of 29.2.2008, interalia, contains action points relating to tiger protection (para 114, Sl. No. 73). A one time grant of Rs. 50.00 crore has been proposed to the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) for raising, arming and deploying the Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF).

2. Central Assistance (100%) would be provided to States under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger for raising, arming and deploying the STPF.

### **3. Description of the STPF**

#### **(A) Name of the Force:**

Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF).

#### **(B) Composition of the Force:**

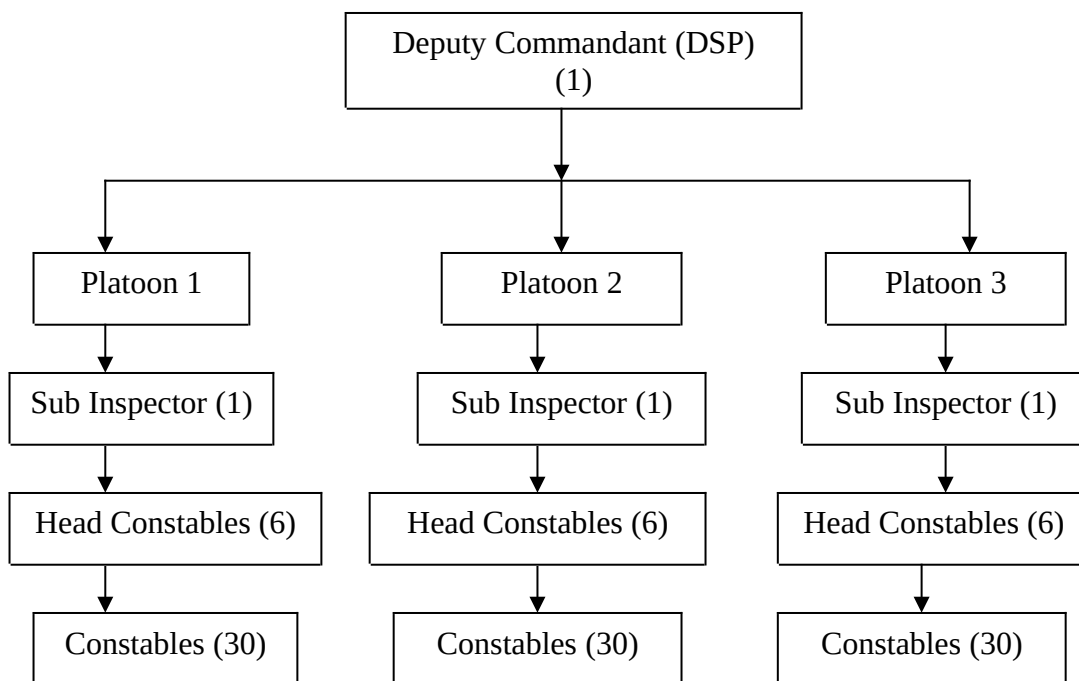
- (i) The STPF will not be an “Armed Force of the Union”, but a modest, dedicated force suited to tiger reserves, not conforming to the large scale of Central Forces, with the personnel drawn on deputation from the local Police Department of the State for a period of three years.
- (ii) The STPF would be comprised of 13 companies, organized on the lines of India Reserve Battalion, as advised by the Ministry of Home Affairs. However, the structure of the STPF would not necessarily conform to the pattern of India Reserve Battalion, and would be a specialized Force with its own structure and composition as required for tiger reserves.
- (iii) In all, the STPF would comprise of 1,456 personnel distributed in 13 companies (each with a total strength of 112), for deploying in 13 sensitive tiger reserves.
- (iv) Each company (of 112 personnel) of the STPF would be headed by a Deputy Commandant of the rank of a Deputy Superintendent of Police and three Sub-Inspectors.

- (v) The STPF personnel, below 40 years of age, would be drawn on deputation from the local Police Department for a period of three years.

**(C) Structure of a company:**

- (i) Each company would comprise of three platoons, with each platoon under a Sub-Inspector of Police, assisted by 6 Head Constables and 30 Constables.

**STRUCTURE OF A COY**  
(Total strength 111 + 1)



The cost details relating to salary, procurement of vehicles, arms and ammunition, infrastructure are provided in **Annexures-I to V**.

**(D) Overall command and control:**

- (i) The STPF Deputy Commandant and other personnel would work under the overall control and supervision of the Field Director of a Tiger Reserve. The administrative as well as operational command of the said force would remain with the Field Director of the tiger reserve, who will be the appointing / disciplinary authority also. The NTCA would be required to pay the deployment charges to the State Government or reimburse such costs relating to STPF, on the lines of India Reserve Battalion. The reimbursement / payment would be 100% central assistance from the NTCA.

- (ii) The command / control operations of STPF would be coordinated by the Field Director / DSP incharge of STPF with local State Police.
- (iii) In emergency situation, the Ministry of Environment and Forests, GOI can transfer the STPF companies from one place to another using the first right of call. The Government of India will also have full authority to ask the State Government to make the companies available for deployment elsewhere in other tiger reserves within the State, or in sensitive interstate borders for tiger protection. It will also have the right to decide the number of companies to be posted in each tiger reserve.

**(E) Recruitment:**

- (i) The recruiting authority for the STPF would be the local Police Department of the State.
- (ii) The STPF companies would be recruited locally from the District(s) within which the tiger reserve is located by the Police Department of the State, as done for their own armed battalion.
- (iii) After attaining 40 years of age, STPF personnel should be transferred to other units of State Police / Battalions.

**(F) Legal immunity to STPF for discharging the official mandate:**

- (i) The STPF personnel, being Police officers on deputation from the local Police Department of the State, will have normal policing powers as per law.
- (ii) The State Government would be required to confer powers to the STPF personnel under sub-section (3) of Section 197 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (2 of 1974), and all powers enabling it in that behalf, the power to use fire arms to combat tiger poaching and related offence within the tiger habitat, through a notification. In this context, sub-section (2) of Section 197 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (2 of 1974) should be made applicable to all personnel of the STPF.
- (iii) Whenever, firing is resorted to by the STPF personnel, each such incident shall be enquired into by the Executive Magistrate; any proceeding, including instituting a criminal case or arrest can be initiated only if it is held, as a result of the Magisterial Enquiry, that the use of fire arms has been unnecessary, unwarranted and excessive, and such report has been accepted by the Government after examination.

**(G) Other features:**

- (i) The STPF, not being an “Armed Force of the Union”, would be used only for tiger protection, and under no circumstances would be requisitioned in aid of Civil Authority, for any other district work. A draft MOU to be

formalized between the NTCA and the State of deployment is appended as **Annexure-VI**.

- (ii) The initial funding support for raising, arming and deploying the STPF would be provided from the one time grant given to the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), and would be supported subsequently in an ongoing manner through grants provided to the said Authority.
- (iii) The Field Director of the Tiger Reserve would be required to provide monthly reports on the deployment / initiatives done by the STPF to the NTCA.

**(H) Financial implications:**

- (i) The total Recurring Cost (per annum/per company) works out to Rs. 1,87,19,912/- (Rs. 1.87 crore).
- (ii) The total Non-recurring Cost (per company) works out to Rs. 1,84,82,002/- (Rs. 1.85 crore).
- (iii) Out of the one time grant of Rs. 50.00 crores, **13 companies** can be raised.

**(I) Training:**

- (i) The STPF companies would receive special training from the State Police Department as well as the Central Paramilitary Forces, based on a special syllabus for skill development, combating poaching, and enabling intelligence based enforcement in a forest terrain.
- (ii) The training of the STPF would be on the pattern of a syllabus of basic training which would be prescribed by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, on the basis of the ongoing syllabus prescribed by the Ministry of Home Affairs for the India Reserve Battalion.
- (iv) Every month, one week will be spared on rotation of each platoon, during which the STPF personnel would be sent to the local Police Department for training to ensure their fitness, apart from maintenance of fire arms.

**(J) Deployment of STPF:**

During the initial phase, the STPF would be deploy in 13 sensitive tiger reserves of the country, having considerable source populations of tiger, based on the outcome of the all India tiger estimation using the refined methodology.

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## Annexure-I

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATION OF STPF PER ANNUM (Salary etc.)

(13 companies, 39 platoons)

Sl No.	Designation	Strength	Pay Scale	Mean Pay	Grade Pay	DA	Ration Money Allowance	Kit Maintenance Allowance/ Washing Allowance	Total per person per month	Total per person per year (X12)	For total strength per year
1.	Deputy Commandant (DSP)	13	(S-14) PB-2 Rs. 9300-34800	18140	4800	3670	0	300	26910	322920	4197960
2.	Sub-Inspector	39	(S-10) PB-2 Rs. 9300-34800	13490	4200	2830	860	60	21440	257280	10033920
3.	Head Constable	234	(S-7) PB-1 Rs. 5200-20200	9300	2400	1872	860	60	14492	173904	40693536
4.	Constables	1170	(S-6) PB-1 Rs. 5200-20200	7540	2000	1526	860	60	11986	143832	168283440
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1456</b>		<b>48470</b>	<b>13400</b>	<b>9898</b>	<b>2580</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>74828</b>	<b>897936</b>	<b>223208856</b>

(Amount in Rs.)

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATION OF VEHICLE PROCUREMENT**

(per company)

(Amount in Rs.)

No. of Platoons	Type of vehicle	Total number	Cost per vehicle	Financial implication
3	Motor Cycle	6	65000	390000
	Light vehicle	3	500000	1500000
	Truck	2	1000000	2000000
	Ambulance	1	1000000	1000000
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>2565000</b>	<b>4890000</b>

**Annexure-III**

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATION FOR ARMS AMMUNITION**

(per company)

(Amount in Rs.)

Sl. No.	Name of weapon/ ammunition	Rate	Number	Cost
1.	Rifle 5.56 mm INISAS	25775	112	2886800
2.	Carbine 9 mm 1A1DP	10934	3	32802
3.	Pistol 9 mm Auto 1A1 Action Skeleton	11600	3	34800
4.	Day Vision Binoculars	40000	5	200000
5.	Night Vision Binoculars	100000	5	500000
6.	Carts SA Ball 9 mm	13	20000	260000
7.	Carts SA Ball 9 mm for Pistol	13	25200	327600
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>188335</b>	<b>45328</b>	<b>4242002</b>

**Annexure-IV**

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATION FOR INFRASTRUCTURE**

(per company)

(Amount in Rs.)

Sl. No.	Building	Number	Total cost
1.	DSP Quarter	1	500000
2.	SI Quarter	3	1500000
3.	HC Quarter	18	3600000
4.	30 Men Barrack	1	900000
5.	Mess	1	900000
6.	Office building	1	400000
7.	Parade Ground/ Play Ground	1	1500000
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>9300000</b>



**FINANCIAL IMPLICATION FOR RAISING NEW ESTABLISHMENT**

(per company, per annum)

(Amount in Rs.)

<b>Recurring cost (Salary etc.)</b>	<b>Recurring cost for uniform maintenance</b>	<b>Recurring cost for vehicle maintenance</b>	<b>Procurement of ammunition</b>	<b>Total Recurring cost</b>
17169912	50000	1000000	500000	<b>18719912</b> <b>(Rs. 1.87 crore)</b>

(per company)

<b>Non-Recurring Cost Infrastructure</b>	<b>Tentage</b>	<b>Procurement of Arms ammunition / equipment</b>	<b>Procurement of Vehicles</b>	<b>Total Non-recurring cost</b>
9300000	50000	4242002	4890000	<b>18482002</b> <b>(Rs. 1.85 crore)</b>