

NAME OF PUBLICATION

FRONT PRESS JOURNAL

PLACE OF PUBLICATION

MUMBAI

DATE OF PUBLICATION

28 MAY 2010

6 TIGER RESERVES TOO HIT BY MAOIST MENACE

FROM OUR DELHI BUREAU

NEW DELHI

AT least six of the 39 tiger reserves in India have been affected by the Maoist menace, says a status report published in the latest issue of STRIPES, a bimonthly outreach journal of the National Tiger Conservation Authority.

These also includes the Indravati tiger reserve in Chhattisgarh. Other reserves affected by the Maoist presence are:

Nagarjunsagar (Andhra), Palamu (Jharkhand), Valmiki (Bihar), Simlipal (Orissa) and Namdapha (Arunachal Pradesh).

This is the finding of three teams constituted by the authority for urgent appraisal of nine reserves having low tiger density and problems due to extremist activities.

In case of the Indravati Tiger Reserve, the team reported that several Naxalite threats have crippled management control as frontline staff has been withdrawn

from the core area and the buffer area of the reserve is not under control of the field director.

The team has also recommended more armed forces in Simlipal Tiger Reserve, pointing out that the Naxalite problems make management of certain areas difficult. In case of Nagarjunsagar-Srisailam reserve, the team has pressed for relocation of 1100 families and an urgent notification of GBM sanctuary as a critical tiger habitat.