

Govt to set up Corbett tiger trust

To increase revenue, resolve man-animal conflict

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Following the suggestion of Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Union Environment and Forests Minister Jairam Ramesh, the Uttarakhand Government has decided to constitute a Jim Corbett Tiger Trust headed by Chief Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank and other 15-20 members. The Jim Corbett National Park is going to complete its 75 years in November, 2011 and the State Government has decided to celebrate the platinum jubilee. This was ascertained by Additional Chief Secretary Subhash Kumar on Tuesday.

The Trust would convene a meeting to find out the solution of human-animal conflict

because there is report that people have encroached upon the land on animals' corridor in between Ramnagar and Dhanagiri so conflict frequency has increased.

They will make free the land from encroachers so that the conflict can be averted because animal use their corridor generation by generation and whenever encroachment happen they resist for their way resulting into the man-animal conflict. If it increases then local inhabitants use their mode to get rid of the animal.

The Trust will also find out the way on how to increase the revenue of the park. Although the revenue has increased through tariff and entry fee but sometime that money is being

diverted for other purpose.

With this formation, the money will go to the foundation directly and will take care of the park. There is fear among the donors that if they donate money in the account of the Government then it can be misused also.

In the last financial year (April 2009-March 2010), the Corbett Tiger Reserve (CTR) had received 1.98 lakh tourists from across the country and abroad realising revenue up to Rs 4.44 crore while during the corresponding period of the previous financial year (2008-2009), the CTR attracted 2.2 lakh tourists generating revenue up to Rs 3.6 crore.

With the formation of the trust, wildlife agencies, wildlife



lovers, World Bank and other donors will directly pay to the trust. Even collection through

entry fee will also go to the trust and will be able to utilise the fund for the welfare of the park.