

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3324
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2000
DEATH OF CUBS IN DELHI ZOO .
NOOTANAKALAVA RAMAKRISHNA REDDY;RAVI PRAKASH VERMA

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

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `Third Tiger dies in Zoo in a month` appearing in the `Indian Express` dated November 15, 2000;
- (b) if so, the number of white tigers in the said zoo at present;
- (c) the action being taken against erring officials of the zoo administration in this regard; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for the protection of rare animals including white tigers?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

- (a)&(b) Yes, Sir. In the last one month only one tiger has died in the Delhi Zoo. At present there are three white tigers in the Delhi Zoo.
- (c) The post-mortem and viscera analysis has revealed that the animal has died due to acute nephritis i.e. malfunctioning of kidney and lung infection. Therefore, the question of taking action against any zoo staff member does not arise.
- (d) All the zoo authorities have been asked to follow the guidelines issued by Central Zoo Authority for better upkeep and health care of zoo animals. Measures to ensure conservation of tigers and other rare animals in zoos include improved upkeep and better health care of animals.