

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1826

ANSWERED ON:07.03.2011

SAFETY OF WILD ANIMALS

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

- (a) whether 'tigers' are falling prey to irregularities in management of their security and care and are dying untimely;
- (b) if so, the details of the measures taken to increase the dwindling number of tigers and leopards in forests; and
- (c) the details of measures likely to be taken for good tiger reserves for security and care of tigers in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) As per the findings of the recent All India tiger estimation in 2008 using the refined methodology, the total country-level population of tiger is 1411 (mid value); the lower and upper limits being 1165 and 1657 respectively. The said findings indicate a poor status of tiger population in areas outside tiger reserves and protected areas. The tiger population, by and large, in tiger reserves and protected areas are viable, while requiring ongoing conservation efforts. Instances of local extinction of tigers have come into light at Sariska and Panna Tiger Reserves, where initiatives have been taken to repopulate the area through tiger reintroduction.

(b) & (c) The milestone initiatives taken by the Government of India for conservation and protection of wild animals including tigers, are at Annexure-I.