



TIGER AND LEOPARD POACHING STATISTICS

The WILDLIFE PROTECTION SOCIETY OF INDIA (WPSI) has been working with government enforcement agencies since 1994 to apprehend tiger and leopard poachers and traders in India. WPSI also makes every effort to investigate and verify any unnatural tiger or leopard death and seizure of their parts. The following figures are compiled from reports received from enforcement authorities, work carried out by WPSI, and other sources. These documented cases must represent only a fraction of the actual poaching and trade in tiger and leopard parts in India.

95 tigers and 138 leopards known to have been killed by poachers in **1994**

121 tigers and 143 leopards killed by poachers in **1995**

52 tigers and 110 leopards killed by poachers in **1996**

88 tigers and 145 leopards killed by poachers in **1997**

39 tigers and 69 leopards killed by poachers in **1998**

81 tigers and 135 leopards killed by poachers in **1999**

52 tigers and 1,278 leopards killed by poachers in **2000**

72 tigers and 167 leopards killed by poachers in **2001**

46 tigers and 89 leopards killed by poachers in **2002**

38 tigers and 148 leopards killed by poachers in **2003**

38 tigers and 123 leopards killed by poachers in **2004**

46 tigers and 199 leopards killed by poachers in **2005**

37 tigers and 163 leopards killed by poachers in **2006**

27 tigers and 126 leopards killed by poachers in **2007**

29 tigers and 161 leopards killed by poachers in **2008**

32 tigers and 165 leopards killed by poachers in **2009**

30 tigers and 184 leopards killed by poachers in **2010**

13 tigers and 188 leopards killed by poachers in **2011**

32 tigers and 140 leopards killed by poachers in **2012**

43 tigers and 111 leopards killed by poachers in **2013**

23 tigers and 118 leopards killed by poachers in **2014**

26 tigers and 127 leopards killed by poachers in **2015**, and

35 tigers and 118 leopards killed by poachers up to **15 Sep 2016**

Total for past ~22 years (1994-2016): 1,095 tigers and 4,345 leopards

WPSI also has records of a large number of tigers and leopards that were "found dead". Without verification of poaching evidence, these deaths have not been included in the above figures. To reach an idea of the magnitude of the poaching of these species in India, it may be noted that the Customs authorities multiply known offences by ten to estimate the size of an illegal trade.

The illicit international demand for big cat skins along with the trade in bones and other body parts for use in traditional Chinese medicine continue to be the main reason for the unrelenting poaching pressure on these endangered cats. There is virtually no market for either skins or body parts of tigers and leopards within India.

Note: For tiger bone seizures, in the absence of skulls the number of dead tigers is calculated by using an average of 12 kg of bones per tiger.

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