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Title: Need to take steps to protect the population of white tigers particularly in Nandankanan, Orissa- Laid.

DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI (BHUBANESWAR): Nandankanan is the worlds' biggest white tiger safari situated in the State of Orissa. The recent Nandankanan tiger deaths highlight the need for a total reform of Zoos in India and indeed a change in people's attitude towards nature. As all are aware, one of the major cause of the tragedy is the over-population of tigers in the Zoo. There is an urgent need of introspection in order to save the White tige population in India. It is also learnt that a tiger cub at the Part died of food shortage. Recently some elephants are damaging vast area (near about 50 villages) of cultivated land and damaging the paddy fields. The poor farmers get united to fight against the elephants to save their fields.

I would urge the Minister of Environment & Forests to take immediate steps to protect the White tiger population and protect the poor farmers from elephants.