

Fourth Asia Ministerial Conference on Tiger Conservation

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In news- Recently, the Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change addressed the 4th Asia Ministerial Conference on tiger conservation (AMCTC).

Key updates-

- During the conference, the Indian minister said that India will facilitate Tiger Range Countries towards finalization of the New **Delhi Declaration** for the Global Tiger Summit to be held at Vladivostok, Russia later in 2022.
- He recalled that a “Pre-Tiger Summit” meeting was held at New Delhi in 2010, wherein the draft declaration on tiger conservation for Global Tiger Summit was finalized.
- He stated that India has achieved the remarkable feat of doubling the tiger population in 2018 itself, 4 years ahead of the targeted year 2022.
- 14 Tiger Reserves in India have already been awarded with international Conservation Assured Tiger Standards (CA|TS) accreditation and efforts are on to bring in more Tiger Reserves under it.
- CA|TS has been agreed upon as an accreditation tool by the global coalition of Tiger Range Countries (TRCs) and has been developed by tiger and protected area experts.

The tiger

With only 1,000-7,500 tigers in the wild, all of the five existing subspecies are considered endangered. They are the largest of the big cats.

SIBERIAN	BENGAL	INDOCHINESE	SOUTH CHINA	SUMATRA	LIGER
					
WWF-Carson	Howard W. Buffett	San Diego Zoo	WWF-Carson	Howard Buffett	Tiger Haven
Size: 8'½-10'½ foot body and tail	Size: 8-9'½ foot body and tail	Size: 8-9 foot body and tail	Size: 7-8 foot body and tail	Size: 7-8 foot body and tail	A cross between a male lion and female tiger, it can be larger than either animal.
Weight: 200-660 pounds	Weight: 300-480 pounds	Weight: 250-400 pounds	Weight: 240-330 pounds	Weight: 199-264 pounds	Weight: 340 to 900 pounds
Range: Primarily Russia	Range: Primarily India	Range: Primarily Thailand	Range: Central and eastern China	Range: Indonesian island of Sumatra	Range: Born only in captivity.
Population: 300-400 in wild; 499 in zoos	Population: 2,176-4,556 in wild; 333 in zoos	Population: 1,227-1,785 in the wild; 60 in zoos	Population: 20-30 in wild; 47 in zoos	Population: 400-500 in wild; 290 in zoos	Population: Unknown

Sources: World Wildlife Fund; tigers.com/tigerfaq.html

About the AMCTC Conference-

- It is an important event for reviewing progress towards the Global Tiger Recovery Programme and commitments to tiger conservation.
- The **fourth AMCTC was organized by the Government of Malaysia and Global Tiger Forum (GTF).**
- The **3rd Asia Ministerial Conference on Tiger Conservation was held in New Delhi 2016, India.**
- India is one of the founding members of the intergovernmental platform of Tiger Range Countries (TRCs) – Global Tiger Forum.
- **TRCs in GTF are Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Cambodia, Nepal, Myanmar and Vietnam.**

Extra reading- India's Tiger Reserves get Global CA/TS recognition for good Tiger Conservation – JournalsOfIndia