

## **Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary: Odisha**

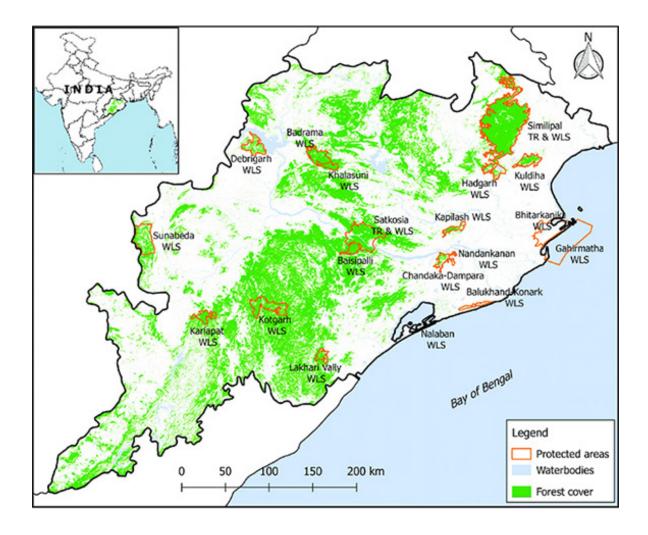
## Why in News

Recently, the Odisha Government has decided to relocate around 420 families from four zero-connectivity villages in **Debrigarh wildlife sanctuary**.

• The relocation is aimed at reducing <u>man-animal conflict</u> and providing better living conditions to the displaced families.

## **Key Points**

- Location:
  - It is situated in the **Bargarh district of Odisha** near <u>Hirakud dam</u> (<u>Mahanadi River</u>) and covers an area of 346.91 square kilometers.
  - It is bounded on the east and north by the huge Hirakud reservoir.
  - It was declared as a wildlife sanctuary on 8<sup>th</sup> February 1985.
  - It is an important site for in situ conservation of wildlife and its habitat in the state of Odisha
- Biodiversity:
  - Flora:
    - Dry deciduous forests
  - Fauna:
    - Four-horned antelope, <u>Indian leopard</u>, <u>Indian elephant</u>, sambar, chital, <u>gaur</u>, etc
- Major Protected Areas in Odisha:
  - National Parks:
    - Bhitarkanika National Park
    - Simlipal National Park
  - Wildlife Sanctuaries:
    - Badrama WLS
    - Chilika (Nalaban island) WLS
    - Hadgarh WLS
    - Baisipalli WLS
    - Kotagarh WLS
    - Nandankanan WLS
    - Lakhari Valley WLS
    - **Gahirmatha** (Marine) WLS



**Source: DTE** 

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