



Pilibhit Tiger Reserve: Uttar Pradesh

Why in News

Recently, a herd of [Elephants](#) from Shuklaphanta National Park reached the **Pilibhit Tiger Reserve** (Uttar Pradesh) and damaged crops of farmers.

- The **Shuklaphanta National Park** is a protected area in the Terai of the Far-Western Region, Nepal.

Key Points

▪ About:

- It is located in **Pilibhit district, Lakhimpur Kheri District** and **Bahraich** District of Uttar Pradesh.
- It was designated as a [Tiger Reserve](#) in **2014** and was India's **45th Tiger Reserve Project**.
 - In 2020, it bagged the International [Award TX2](#) for **doubling up the number of tigers in the past four years**.
- It forms part of [Terai Arc Landscape](#) in the upper [Gangetic Plain](#). The **northern edge of the reserve lies along the Indo-Nepal border** while the southern boundary is marked by the **river Sharada and Khakra**.

▪ Corridor Linkages:

- Pilibhit is an important habitat for tigers **owing to its connection with several tiger habitats** within the State and outside. They are **used by tigers and other wild animals**.
- The important linkages are:
 - Surahi range - [Corbett](#)
 - Lagga-Bagga - Shuklaphanta National Park (Nepal)
 - Kishanpur Wildlife Sanctuary - [Dudhwa](#).

▪ Flora and Fauna:

- It is home to a habitat for over **127 animals, 326 bird species and 2,100 flowering plants**.
- Wild animals include tiger, [swamp deer](#), [bengal florican](#), [leopard](#), etc.
- It has high **sal forests, plantations and grasslands** with several water bodies.



Terai Arc Landscape

- It is an 810 km stretch between the river [Yamuna](#) in the west and the **river Bhagmati** in the east.
- It is spread across the **Indian states of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, and the low lying hills of Nepal.**
- It boasts of some of India's most well-known **Tiger Reserves and Protected Areas** such as [Corbett Tiger Reserve](#) (Uttarakhand), [Rajaji National Park](#) (Uttarakhand), [Dudhwa Tiger Reserve](#) (Uttar Pradesh), [Valmiki Tiger Reserve](#) (Bihar).
- The forests are home to three flagship species, the Bengal tiger (*Panthera tigris*), the **greater one horned rhino** (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) and the [Asian elephant](#) (*Elephas maximus*).

Source: TH