



Tigresses Relocation to Palamu Reserve

Why in News?

According to the sources, to keep the four tigers that have moved to [Palamu Tiger Reserve \(PTR\)](#) efforts are being made to bring in two tigresses and one tiger from another reserve.

Key Points

- The approval of the [National Zoo Authority](#) is awaited for shifting 350 animals to the **Soft Release Centers (SRC)** set up in the reserve.
 - Permission from [National Tiger Conservation Authority \(NTCA\)](#) for shifting the cheetals, sambhars and deer has already been obtained.
- The forest officials have set up four SRCs to ensure enough food for tigers, which will help them breed in the reserve.
 - In these centres, animals are placed in pre-release cages placed close to the location where they will be released.
- Soft releases at Baresadh, Lukaiya, Mundu, and Dhardharia cover 10 hectares each, creating a suitable environment for [cheetals](#) breeding, which will serve as prey for the tigers.
- Cheetals and sambhar will be shifted from **Betla National Park** and [Bhagwan Birsa Biological Park \(Birsa Zoo\)](#) to different SRCs.
- According to the report on the [status of tigers in India](#), released by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2019, **there were no tigers in PTR**.
 - PTR is **spread over** an area of about **1,230 sq km**. It was made a **tiger reserve in 1973**.

National Zoo Authority

- It is a **statutory body** under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. It was constituted in 1992 under the [Wildlife \(Protection\) Act, 1972](#).
- It is **chaired by the Union Minister of Environment** and has 10 members and a member-secretary.
- The main objective of the authority is **to complement and strengthen the national effort in conservation of rich biodiversity**.
- The authority provides **recognition to zoos** and is also tasked with **regulating the zoos** across the country.
 - It **lays down guidelines** and prescribes rules under which animals may be transferred among zoos nationally and internationally.
 - It **coordinates and implements programmes** on capacity building of zoo personnel, planned breeding programmes and ex-situ research.

National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)

- It is a **statutory body** under **section 38 L (1) of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**.
- It was established in **2005** following the recommendations of the [Tiger Task Force](#).

