



Ranthambore Tiger Reserve

Why in News?

Recently, The **forest department imposed a penalty of Rs 1 lakh each on 14 SUV owners** who illegally entered [Ranthambore Tiger Reserve \(RTR\)](#) during an adventure rally.

Key Points

- The fine was imposed in accordance with **Section 27/51 of the [Wildlife Act of, 1972.](#)**
- **About:**
 - **Ranthambore Tiger Reserve** lies in the **eastern part of Rajasthan state in Karauli and Sawai Madhopur districts, at the junction of the [Aravali](#) and [Vindhya hill ranges.](#)**
 - It **comprises the [Ranthambore National Park](#) as well as [Sawai Mansingh and Kailadevi Sanctuaries.](#)**
 - The **Ranthambore fort**, from which the forests derive their name, is said to have a rich history of over 1000 years. It is strategically located atop a 700 feet tall hill within the park and is believed to have been **built in 944 AD by a Chauhan ruler.**
 - This isolated area with tigers in it **represents the north-western limit of the Bengal tiger's distribution range** and is **an outstanding example of [Project Tiger's](#) efforts for conservation** in the country.
- **Features:**
 - The reserve consists of highly fragmented forest patches, ravines, river streams and agricultural land.
 - It is **connected to [Kuno-Palpur Landscape in Madhya Pradesh](#)**, through parts of Kailadevi Wildlife Sanctuary, the ravine habitats of Chambal and the forest patches of Sheopur.
 - **Tributaries of [River Chambal](#)** provide easy passage for tigers to move towards the Kuno National Park.
- **Vegetation and Wildlife:**
 - The **vegetation** includes grasslands on plateaus and dense forests along the seasonal streams.
 - The forest type is mainly **tropical dry deciduous with 'dhak' (Butea monosperma)**, a species of tree capable of withstanding long periods of drought, being the commonest.
 - **This tree is also called 'Flame of forest'** and is one of the many flowering plants that add colour to the dry summers here.
 - The park is rich in **wildlife** with tigers at the apex of the food chain in mammals.
 - Other animals found here are **leopards**, striped hyenas, common or hanuman langurs, **rhesus macaques**, jackals, jungle cats, **caracals, blackbuck**, Blacknaped hare and chinkara, etc.
- **Other Protected Areas in Rajasthan:**
 - **[Sariska National Park](#)**, Alwar
 - **[Desert National Park](#)**, Jaisalmer
 - **[Keoladeo National Park](#)**, Bharatpur
 - **[Sajjargarh wildlife sanctuary](#)**, Udaipur
 - **[National Chambal Sanctuary](#)** (on tri-junction of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar

Pradesh)

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