



Tiger ST-2303 in Jhabua

Why in News?

Recently, **Tiger ST-2303** has wandered from [Sariska Tiger Reserve](#) to the **dense forests of Jhabua** in Rewari, Haryana.

Key Points

- Jhabua forest, rich in prey like [nilgai](#) and **wild boar**, provides the tiger with an abundant food source and dense cover, making it **challenging for forest officials to capture or relocate him**.
 - The tiger's presence near villages has **raised safety concerns** and fear of potential [human-wildlife conflict](#).
 - **Forest officials are coordinating with counterparts in Rajasthan** to safely return the tiger to Sariska.
- **The Sariska Tiger Foundation** has **urged the Union Minister of Environment to ensure the tiger's return to its original habitat**, amidst concerns of possible relocation to another reserve.
 - This incident highlights the **importance of protecting [wildlife corridors](#) between Sariska and the Haryana [Aravalis](#)** for future tiger migrations.

Sariska Tiger Reserve

- Sariska Tiger Reserve is **located in [Aravali hills](#)** and forms a **part of the Alwar District of Rajasthan**.
- It was declared as a **wildlife sanctuary in 1955** and was **declared as a [tiger reserve](#) later in 1978**, making it a part of India's [Project Tiger](#).
- It **encompasses ruined temples, forts, pavilions and a palace**.
 - **Kankarwadi Fort** is located in the centre of the reserve.
 - It is said that **Mughal emperor Aurangzeb had imprisoned his brother Dara Shikoh at this fort** in the struggle for succession to the throne.

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HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICT



When encounters between humans and wildlife lead to negative results, such as loss of property, livelihoods, and even life

Causes of HWC

- Agricultural Expansion
- Urbanization
- Infrastructure Development
- Climate Change
- Wildlife Populations Growth and Range Expansion

Impacts of HWC

- Grave injuries, Loss of life
- Damage to farms and crops
- ↑ violence against animals

WWF India during 2003-2004 developed the Sonitpur Model by which community members were connected with Assam Forest Dept and given training on how to drive elephants away from crop fields and human habitations safely.

In 2020, the SC upheld Madras HC's decision on the Nilgiris elephant corridor, affirming the right of passage of the animals and closure of resorts in the area.

Data on HWC

- Tigers killed 125 humans between 2019 and 2021
- Death of 329 tigers due to poaching, natural and unnatural causes.
- Elephants killed 1,579 humans in three years
- Death of 307 elephants due to poaching, electrocution, poisoning and train accidents

Advisory for HWC Management (Standing Committee of the National Board of Wildlife)

- Gram Panchayats empowered to deal with problematic wild animals (WPA 1972)
- Compensation against crop damage due to HWC (PM Fasal Bima Yojna)
- Local/State depts. to adopt early warning systems and create barriers
- Paying a part of ex-gratia as interim relief within 24 hours of the incident to the victim/family

State - Specific Initiatives

- **UP** - Man-animal conflict under **listed disasters** (in State Disaster Response Fund)
- **Uttarakhand** - **Bio-fencing** carried out by growing various species of plants in areas
- **Odisha** - Casting **seed balls** inside different forests to **enrich food stock for wild elephants**

