



Madhya Pradesh Launches Probe in New Tiger Reserve

Why in News?

Recently, The Madhya Pradesh government has initiated an inquiry into the alleged **poaching of tigers and irregularities** in the newly established **Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve**.

Key Points

- The forest department launched the probe following an allegation of **serious negligence in the conservation of tigers, tiger safari and management of forest property** in the reserve.
 - There is also alleged large-scale **illegal tree cutting and transportation of wood** in the Bara Beat area of the **Nauradehi Sanctuary**.

Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve

- It is the **seventh tiger reserve in the state** and the **54th in India**.
- It is spread across **Sagar, Damoh and Narsinghpur districts of Madhya Pradesh** and covers an area of 2,339 square kilometres.
- Parts of the reserve fall under **the Narmada and Yamuna River basins** and the **Singorgarh Fort** is located within the reserve.

Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary

- Nauradehi sanctuary is located in Madhya Pradesh's **Sagar district**.
- It was found to be the **most suitable area for the cheetahs** as its forests are not very dense to restrict the fast movement of the fastest land animal.
 - And the prey base for cheetahs is also in abundance at the sanctuary.
- This is the **largest wildlife sanctuary of Madhya Pradesh** in terms of area covered.
- It is located in the centre of the state covering parts of Sagar, Damoh, Narsinghpur, and Raisin Districts.
- The protected area sits astride **two major river basins of India, namely the Narmada and Ganges**.