



'Sugarcane Tigers' in Pilibhit Tiger Reserve | Uttar Pradesh | 10 Oct 2024

Why in News?

Recently, over 10 [tigers](#) have mysteriously disappeared from the sugarcane fields of Pilibhit, raising fears of poaching or migration.

Key Points

- **'Sugarcane Tigers':**
 - 'Sugarcane tigers' is a term used for tigers that inhabit sugarcane fields instead of forest areas.
 - These fields offer thick cover and prey, creating a habitat similar to forests.
 - Pilibhit, in Uttar Pradesh, is known for such tigers, as sugarcane fields offer shelter due to the shrinking forest cover and human encroachments in tiger habitats.
- **Pilibhit Tiger Reserve :**
 - It is located in Pilibhit and Shahjahanpur district of Uttar Pradesh.
 - It was notified as a [Tiger Reserve](#) in 2014.
 - In 2020, it bagged [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.
 - **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.

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TIGER

Royal Bengal Tiger (*Panthera Tigris*) is the National animal of India.

Subspecies of Tiger

- * The continental (*Panthera tigris tigris*)
- * The Sunda (*Panthera tigris sondaica*)

Habitat

Tropical rainforests, evergreen forests, temperate forests, mangrove swamps, grasslands, and savannas



Countries Where Tiger Population Is Found

- Found only in 13 Tiger Range countries- India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Russia, China, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam
- As per the latest report by IUCN, tiger has gone extinct in Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam

Protection Status

- IUCN Red List: Endangered
- CITES: Appendix I

Threats

- Habitat loss
- Poaching and illegal trade
- Human-Wildlife conflict

UP Bypolls 2024 | Uttar Pradesh | 10 Oct 2024

Why in News?

Recently, Uttar Pradesh is gearing up for [by-polls](#) in several constituencies, following vacancies created by various factors.

Key Points

- **About:**
 - Bypolls, also known as **bye-elections or special elections**, refer to [elections](#) held to **fill vacant seats in the legislative bodies of India**.
 - It serves as a **vital component within the broader electoral cycle** and complements regular elections by **addressing unforeseen vacancies**.
- **Purpose:**
 - The primary objective of bypolls is to ensure **the timely filing of vacant seats, enabling the representation of the affected constituency** or district in the legislative body.
- **Occurrence:**
 - Bypolls are conducted when a seat in the legislature becomes vacant due to reasons such as the **death, resignation, disqualification, or expulsion of a sitting member**.
- **Timeframe:**
 - Section 151A of the [Representation of the People Act, 1951](#) mandates the Election Commission to fill the casual vacancies in the Houses of Parliament and State Legislatures through **bye elections within six months from the date of occurrence of the vacancy**, provided that the **remainder of the term of a member in relation to a vacancy is one year or more**.
 - Hence, there is **no need to hold bye elections if the remaining term of the Lok Sabha is less than one year** from the date of occurrence of vacancies.

▪ **Impact:**

- **Impact on Political Landscape:** Bye-elections often serve as a **litmus test for [political parties](#) and their popularity.**
 - They provide an opportunity for parties to **gauge public sentiment and assess their support base.**
- **Impact on Government Majority:** Bye-election outcomes can affect the majority of the ruling government.
 - If the **ruling party loses a significant number of by-poll seats, it may lead to a loss of majority in the legislative body**, which can impact the government's stability and decision-making.
- **Testing the Electoral Strategies:** Bye-elections provide an avenue for political parties to test their **electoral strategies and fine-tune their campaign approaches.**
 - Parties may experiment with **candidate selection, campaign themes, and messaging during by-polls**, which can influence their strategies in subsequent elections.

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