



'Sugarcane Tigers' in Pilibhit Tiger Reserve

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.

//

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

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/sugarcane-tigers-in-pilibhit-tiger-reserve>

