



Madhya Pradesh's 9th Tiger Reserve

Why in News?

[The National Tiger Conservation Authority \(NTCA\)](#) has approved the designation of [Madhav National Park](#) in **Shivpuri district** as a **Tiger Reserve**. This move will establish Madhav as the **9th tiger reserve in Madhya Pradesh**.

- The committee also sanctioned the release of one male and one female tiger into the park.

Key Points

- **Proposed Tiger Reserve Area:**
 - It will span 1,751 square kilometers, including a core area of 375 square kilometers and a buffer zone of 1,276 square kilometers.
 - **Madhav National Park achieved a milestone in tiger conservation with the birth of tiger cubs** in September 2024, following a successful breeding program.
- **Second Phase of Tiger Reintroduction:**
 - The Madhya Pradesh Forest Department is preparing for the second phase of reintroductions, which includes bringing in additional tigers from [Bandhavgarh](#), [Kanha](#), or [Sanjay-Dubri National Parks](#).
- **Long-Term Expansion Plans:**
 - Madhav Tiger Reserve is part of a **long-term plan to expand into a 1,600-square-kilometer area within five years**.
 - A tiger safari spanning 100 hectares is also planned, with an infrastructure investment of Rs. 20 crore, **expected to boost ecotourism and local economies**.
- **Conservation and Ecotourism Benefits:**
 - This initiative aims to strengthen wildlife management in Madhav and [Kuno National Parks](#).
 - The project is expected to boost [ecotourism](#) and benefit local communities, contributing to regional development.
- **Madhya Pradesh's Pending Notifications:**
 - [Ratapani Wildlife Sanctuary](#), which was **granted in-principle approval** as a **tiger reserve in 2008**, still awaits official notification.
 - Reports suggest political **resistance due to mining activities near Ratapani** has delayed its formal designation.

Madhav National Park

- **About:**
 - Madhav National Park is situated in Shivpuri District, Madhya Pradesh.
 - It is a part of the upper [Vindhyan hills](#).
 - The Park was the hunting ground of Mughal emperors and Maharaja of Gwalior. It got the status of a National Park in 1959.
- **Ecosystem:**
 - It has a **diverse ecosystem** consisting of lakes, dry deciduous & dry thorn forests.
 - The forest is home to tigers, leopards, Nilgai, and **Chinkara** (*Gazella bennettii*) and **Chousingha** (*Tetracerus quadricornis*) and Deers (**Chital**, Sambar and Barking Deer)

among others.

▪ **Tiger Corridor:**

- The Park falls within one of the **32 major Tiger Corridors** of the country, which are operationalised through the **Tiger Conservation Plan**. Tiger Conservation Plan is implemented under the [Wildlife \(Protection\) Act, 1972](#).

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