



Madhya Pradesh to Relocate Tigers | Madhya Pradesh | 30 Dec 2024

Why in News?

Recently, [the National Tiger Conservation Authority \(NTCA\)](#) has approved the **relocation of 15 tigers** from Madhya Pradesh to the states of Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Odisha.

Key Points

- **Largest Relocation of Tigers:**
 - The initiative will mark the **largest relocation of big cats** from a single state in India.
 - It aims to bolster [tiger conservation](#) efforts across the country.
 - No specific timeline for the relocation has been finalized yet.
 - Tigers will be relocated from three: [Bandhavgarh](#), [Pench](#), and [Kanha Tiger Reserves](#).
 - Out of the total relocated tigers, **twelve will be tigresses**.
- **Destination States and Distribution:**
 - **Rajasthan:** Four tigresses.
 - **Chhattisgarh:** Two tigers and six tigresses.
 - **Odisha:** One male tiger and two tigresses.

National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)

- It is a **statutory body** under the **Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change**.
- It was **established in 2005** following the recommendations of the Tiger Task Force.
- It was constituted under enabling provisions of the [Wildlife \(Protection\) Act, 1972](#), as amended in 2006, for strengthening tiger conservation, as per powers and functions assigned to it.

Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve

- It is located in the **Umaria district of Madhya Pradesh** and is spread over the [Vindhya hills](#).
 - It holds significant historical importance, evidenced by **the presence of the renowned Bandhavgarh Fort**, along with numerous caves, rock paintings, and carvings throughout the protected area.
- In 1968, it was **designated as a national park** and in **1993 was declared a tiger reserve**.
- It is known for the [Royal Bengal Tigers](#).
 - Other important prey species consist of [chital](#), [sambhar](#), [barking deer](#), [nilgai](#), [chinkara](#), [wild pig](#), [chowsingha](#), [langur](#) and [rhesus macaque](#).
 - Dependent upon them are the major predators like [tiger](#), [leopard](#), [wild dog](#), [wolf](#) and [jackal](#).

Pench Tiger Reserve (PTR)

- PTR is the **joint pride of both Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra**.
- The Reserve is located in the **southern reaches of the Satpura hills** in the **Seoni and Chhindwara districts in Madhya Pradesh**, and continues in **Nagpur district in Maharashtra** as a separate Sanctuary.
 - It was declared a [National Park](#) by the Government of Maharashtra in 1975 and the identity of a [tiger reserve](#) was granted to it in the year 1992.
- However, PTR **Madhya Pradesh was granted the same status in 1992-1993**. It is one of

- the **major Protected Areas of [Satpura-Maikal ranges](#) of the [Central Highlands](#).**
- It is among the sites notified as [Important Bird Areas \(IBA\)](#) of India.

Kanha Tiger Reserve

- It stretches over an area of 940 square km in the **two districts - Mandla and Balaghat - of Madhya Pradesh.**
- The present-day Kanha area **was divided into two sanctuaries, Hallon and Banjar. Kanha National Park was created in 1955 and in 1973** was made the Kanha Tiger Reserve.

MP to Dispose Toxic Waste | Madhya Pradesh | 30 Dec 2024

Why in News?

Recently, the **Madhya Pradesh government** has started disposing of 337 tonnes of [toxic waste](#) from **Union Carbide India Limited (UCIL) in Bhopal**, [40 years after the Bhopal gas tragedy](#). They plan to **transport the waste to Pithampur** in Dhar district.

Key Points

- **Supervised Packing and Stacking:**
 - The factory administration is packing and stacking the waste under the supervision of [the Central Pollution Control Board \(CPCB\)](#) and **Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board (MPPCB).**
 - **Specially trained workers are involved** in the packing and loading process, taking necessary precautions.
 - Twelve specially-designed airtight containers are being used for the waste.
- **Short Worker Shifts:**
 - Workers are operating in 30-45 minute shifts instead of regular 8-9 hour shifts to **minimize exposure to the toxic waste.**
 - A 250-kilometer [green corridor](#) has been prepared **to facilitate the safe transportation of waste** from Bhopal to Pithampur.
- **Trial Run and Safety Assurances:**
 - **In 2015**, 10 tonnes of the **waste were incinerated in Pithampur under scientific supervision**, with results submitted to the [High Court](#) showing no harmful effects.
 - **Safety measures include** landfill sites with two-layer membranes to prevent contamination and a four-layer air filtration system.

The Bhopal Gas Tragedy

- The Bhopal gas tragedy occurred on 2-3 December 1984, when [methyl isocyanate gas](#) leaked, **killing 5,479 people.**
- **More than five lakh people suffered long-term health impacts**, and multiple cases related to the tragedy are still pending in courts.

IMPACT OF GAS EXPOSURE

➤ **Younger population** born after gas leak equally vulnerable



➤ **Those between 31 and 60** (which includes those born after the gas leak of 1984) account for 80% of the suffering



➤ **59%** Gas affected women suffered illnesses

Those under 40 years of age and exposed to gas leak, were diagnosed with twice as many illness as the non-gas leak exposed

• Illness includes **cardiac, cancer, respiratory, kidney, TB, typhoid** and among others



• Twice as many 'gas affected' are dying of **cancers, respiratory illnesses** -- compared with normal population



• **Kidney failure** rate is 3 times, compared with non-gas affected



Key Demands

➤ To set up a system of registration of deaths of people with direct or indirect exposure

➤ **Over 5,000 gas victims are cancer patients.** Review of the work of the Population Based Cancer Registry in Bhopal that claims that there is no association between gas exposure and cancer

➤ Review the system of health-care in place for gas victims

➤ Urgently review drug utilization in the care of gas exposed persons to **avoid kidney damage**



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