Inter-State Translocation of Tigers

Recently, **Madhya Pradesh** has directed the **translocation of 15 tigers** from Madhya Pradesh **to Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, and Odisha** for conservation purposes.

- The tigers will be **translocated from the Bandhavgarh, Pench, and Kanha tiger reserves** in Madhya Pradesh.
- A total of **12 tigresses** and **3 tigers will be moved**, following approval from the **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)**.
    - The distribution plan includes **six tigresses and two tigers for Chhattisgarh**, **four tigresses for Rajasthan**, and **one tiger and two tigresses for Odisha**.
- **Madhya Pradesh has the highest number of tigers in India**, with **785 tigers** according to the **NTCA** 2022 report.
    - The state has **Nine tiger reserves**, including the newly notified **Madhav Tiger Reserve in Shivpuri District.**
- Translocation is a strategy to enhance genetic diversity in tiger populations by introducing new individuals to isolated groups, reducing inbreeding risks and supporting long-term species survival.
    - It serves as a **reinforcement strategy**, aimed at **increasing the genetic diversity** of existing tiger populations.

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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
▣ **WPA 1972:** Schedule I

Threats

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

Conservation Efforts

▣ **International Big Cats Alliance (IBCA):** For conservation of seven big cats namely Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar and Puma (launched by India)
▣ **Tx2 campaign:** Launched by WWF; stands for 'Tiger times 2' signaling the goal to double the tiger population by 2022
▣ **National Tiger Conservation authority (NTCA):** Constituted under the WPA, 1972
▣ **Project Tiger:** Launched in 1973
▣ **Tiger Census:** Every 4 years

Tigers In India

▣ India has the **largest** population
   ◆ As of 2022, India has 3167 tigers
   ◆ Largest population has been found in Central Indian Highlands & Eastern Ghats Landscape
▣ **Tiger Reserves:** India now has 53 tiger reserves
   ◆ **Ranipur in UP** is the latest
   ◆ **Nagarjun Sagar** (Andhra Pradesh) **is the largest** while Orang (Assam) **is the smallest** (Core area)

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Read More: **Tiger Translocation for Genetic Diversity**

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