



Madhya Pradesh to Relocate Tigers

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 **Umria 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.

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