



Namdapha Tiger Reserve

Source: TH

Namdapha Tiger Reserve (NTR) in Arunachal Pradesh has recorded the first sighting of an adult male elephant in 12 years.

- Elephants traditionally migrated between **Namsai (Arunachal Pradesh) and Myanmar via NTR**, however, **encroachments since 1996** have **blocked migration corridors**, confining them in northern areas.

About Elephants:

- India hosts about **60%** of the world's **Asian elephant** population, with an estimated **27,312 elephants** (2017 census) and **138 elephant corridors**.
- Asian elephants have a **22-month gestation period** and are classified as **Endangered** on the **IUCN Red List**.

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ELEPHANT

4 Main Species of Elephant

Species	Found in	IUCN Red List Status	Habitat
Indian	Asia	EN (CITES - Appendix I, WPA - Schedule I)	Subtropical broadleaf forest, tropical broadleaf moist forest, dry forest, grassland
Sumatran	Asia	CR	Broadleaf moist tropical forests
Savanna (Bush)	Africa	EN	All sub-Saharan Africa except for Central Africa's dense tropical forest
Forest	Africa	CR	Dense Tropical Forests

Indian Elephant (*Elephas maximus*)

Largest Land Mammal on Asian Continent
National Heritage Animal of India

- **Top 5 Indian States by Maximum Elephant Population:** (As per elephant census 2017)
 - Karnataka > Assam > Kerala > Tamil Nadu > Odisha
- **Social Structure:**
 - Female elephants are more social than males; form herd (generally 5-7)
 - Led by the oldest female, the 'matriarch'
 - Males usually live alone
- **Threats:**
 - Habitat Fragmentation
 - Poaching for Ivory
 - Human-Elephant Conflict
 - Mistreatment in Captivity
- **Conservation Efforts:**
 - Gaj Sookhna App (2022)
 - Gaj Yatra (2017)
 - Hathi Mere Sathi campaign (2011)
 - National Elephant Corridor project (2005)
 - Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) Programme (2003)
 - Project Elephant (1992)

Namdapha Tiger Reserve

- **Location:** Changlang District (Arunachal Pradesh)
- **Recognition:** Declared as **Wildlife Sanctuary in 1972**, **National Park and Tiger Reserve in 1983**.
- **Vegetation:** Northern [Tropical Evergreen Forest](#), [Moist Deciduous Forests](#), and **Alpine Scrub Forests**.
- **River:** Namdapha River

Other Protected Areas in Arunachal Pradesh

- [Pakke Wildlife Sanctuary](#).
- Mouling National Park
- Kamlang Wildlife Sanctuary.
- Itanagar Wildlife Sanctuary.
- Eagle Nest Wildlife Sanctuary.

Read More: [Namdapha Flying Squirrel](#)

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/namdapha-tiger-reserve>

