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STATUS OF TIGER REPORT



Why in the news?

The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) had released the Status of Tigers, co-predators and Prey in India-2022 report.



Editors: Qamar Qureshi, Yashvinder V. Jha, Satya P. Yadav and Anil Malik (eds)
2022. Status of tigers, co-predators and prey in India, 2022. National Tiger Conservation
Authority, Government of India, New Delhi, and Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun
ISBN No: 81-45606-92-7

The success story of India's conservation efforts:

Tiger population soars

An analysis by the Wildlife Institute of India puts the average number of tigers in India at 3,682. A look at how the tiger population has increased over the years



Decoding the Key Tiger Report



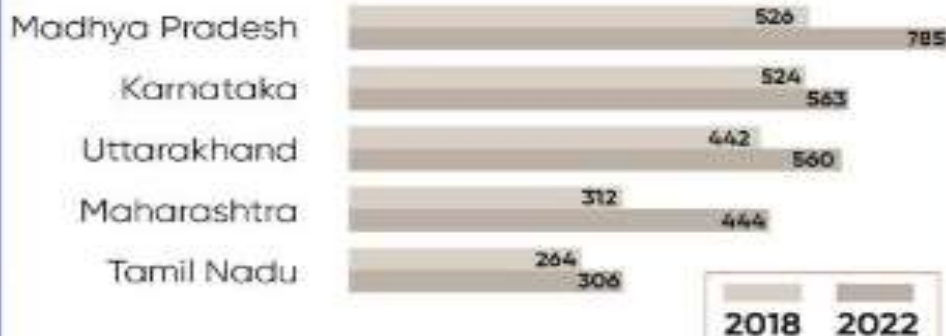
The upper limit of the tiger population is now estimated to be 3,925 and the average number is 3,682

Big cat numbers in the country

2,967
2018

3682
2022

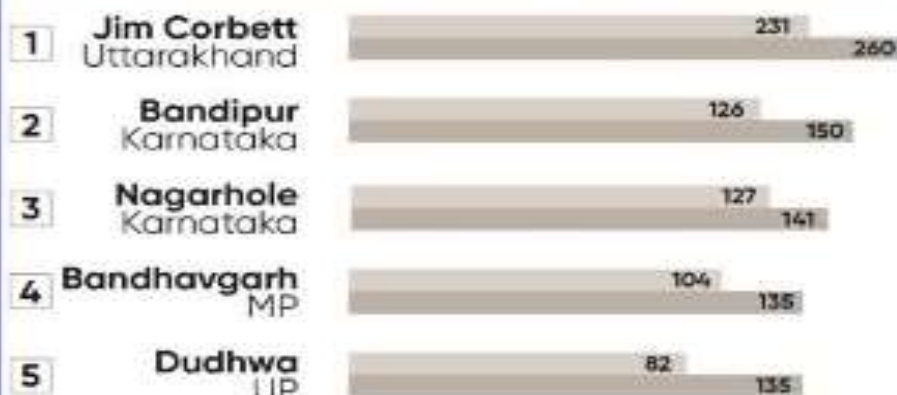
States with highest tiger numbers



States with lowest tiger numbers

	2018	2022
Nagaland	0	0
Mizoram	0	0
Jharkhand	3	1
Goa	3	5
Arunachal	29	9

Reserve with highest tiger population



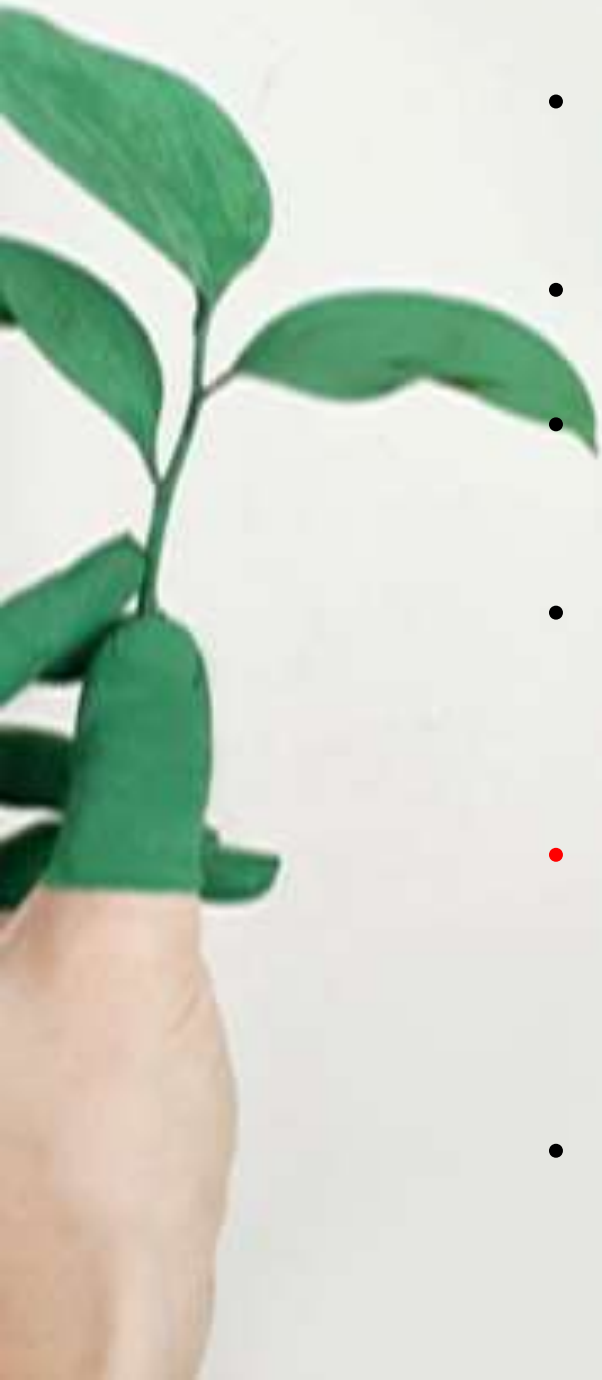
Reserves with no tigers

Dampa (Mizoram), Kamlang (Arunachal Pradesh), Kawal (Telangana), Satkosia (Odisha), Sahyadri (Maharashtra).



Highlights of the report:

- According to tiger census, India's tiger **population increased to 3,682 in 2022.**
- reflect a commendable **annual growth rate of 6.1% per annum.**
- The **largest tiger population of 785 is in MP**, followed by **Karnataka (563) and Uttarakhand (560)**, and **Maharashtra (444).**
- The **tiger abundance within the Tiger Reserve is highest in Corbett (260)**, followed by **Bandipur (150), Nagarhole (141), Bandhavgarh (135), Dudhwa (135),**
- **Central India and the Shivalik Hills and Gangetic Plains witnessed a notable increase in tiger population**, while the **Western Ghats experienced localised declines**, necessitating targeted monitoring and conservation efforts.
- Some states, including **Mizoram, Nagaland, Jharkhand, Goa, Chhattisgarh and Arunachal Pradesh**, have reported disturbing trends with small tiger populations.



Tiger



➤ **Tiger became the national animal of India in 1973 as the lion was a national animal before.**

➤ **Protection Status of Tiger**

➤ **IUCN Red List: Endangered.**

➤ **Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I**

➤ **CITES: Appendix I.**

➤ **Tiger can be killed under two conditions-**

➤ **Diseased or disabled beyond recovery**

➤ **The threat to human life**

➤ **In no case, the tiger can be declared vermin.**

Project Tiger – Tiger Conservation



- There were **40000 tigers in 1900**
- The first country-wide tiger census conducted in **1972 -1,800 tigers**
- Project tiger - launched in Jim Corbett National Park in **1973, with 9 tiger reserves** to ensure a viable population in their natural habitats.
- Tiger reserves are administered by the **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)**.

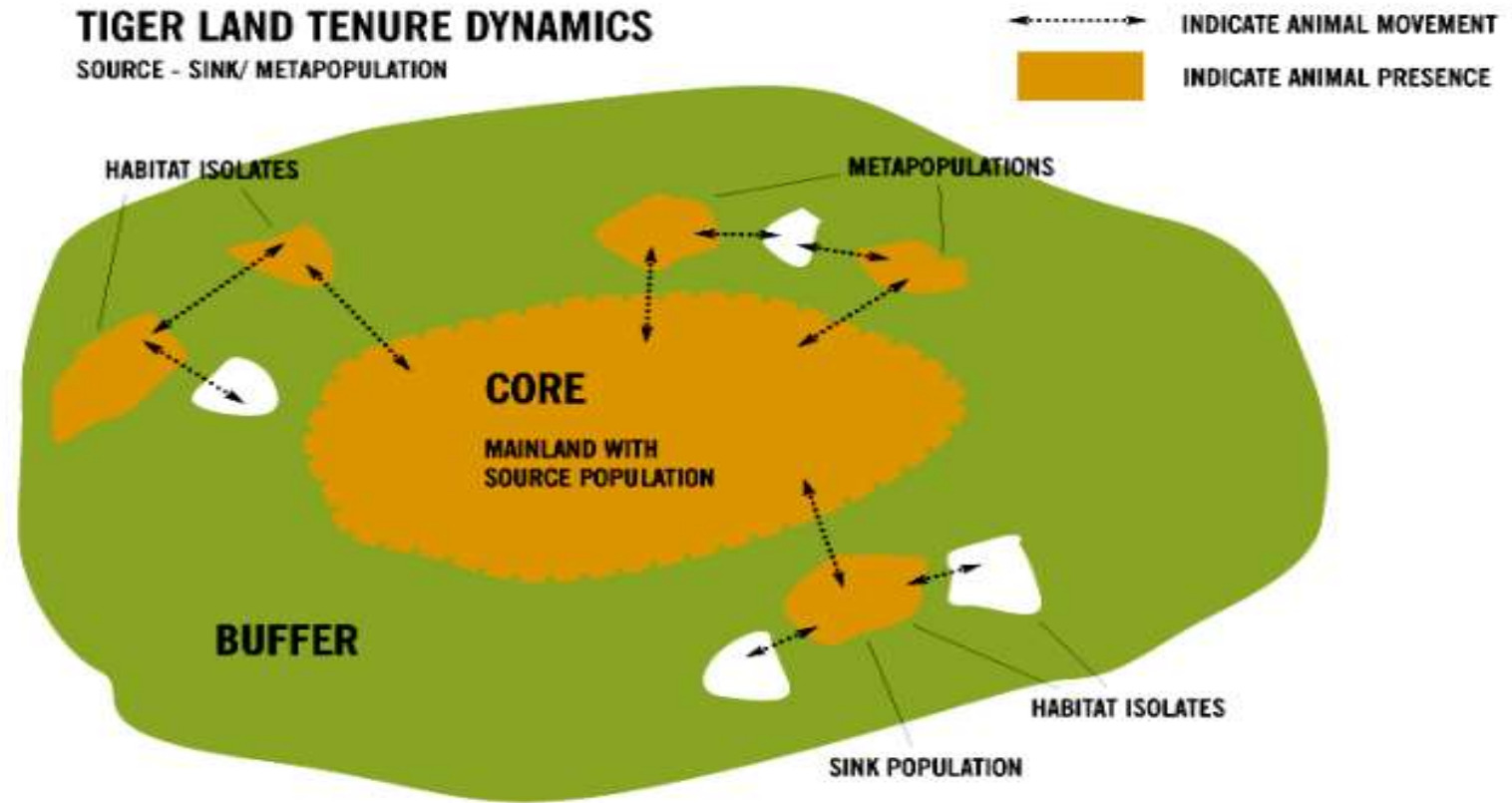
Tiger Reserves

Tigers are **monitored by NTCA under Project Tiger.**

They are created in the country based on '**core-buffer**' strategy.

TIGER LAND TENURE DYNAMICS

SOURCE - SINK/ METAPOPULATION

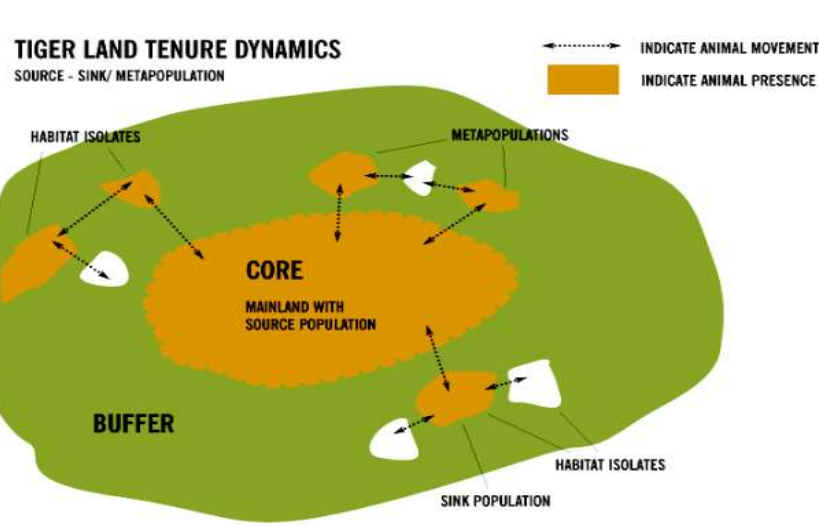


Core Area

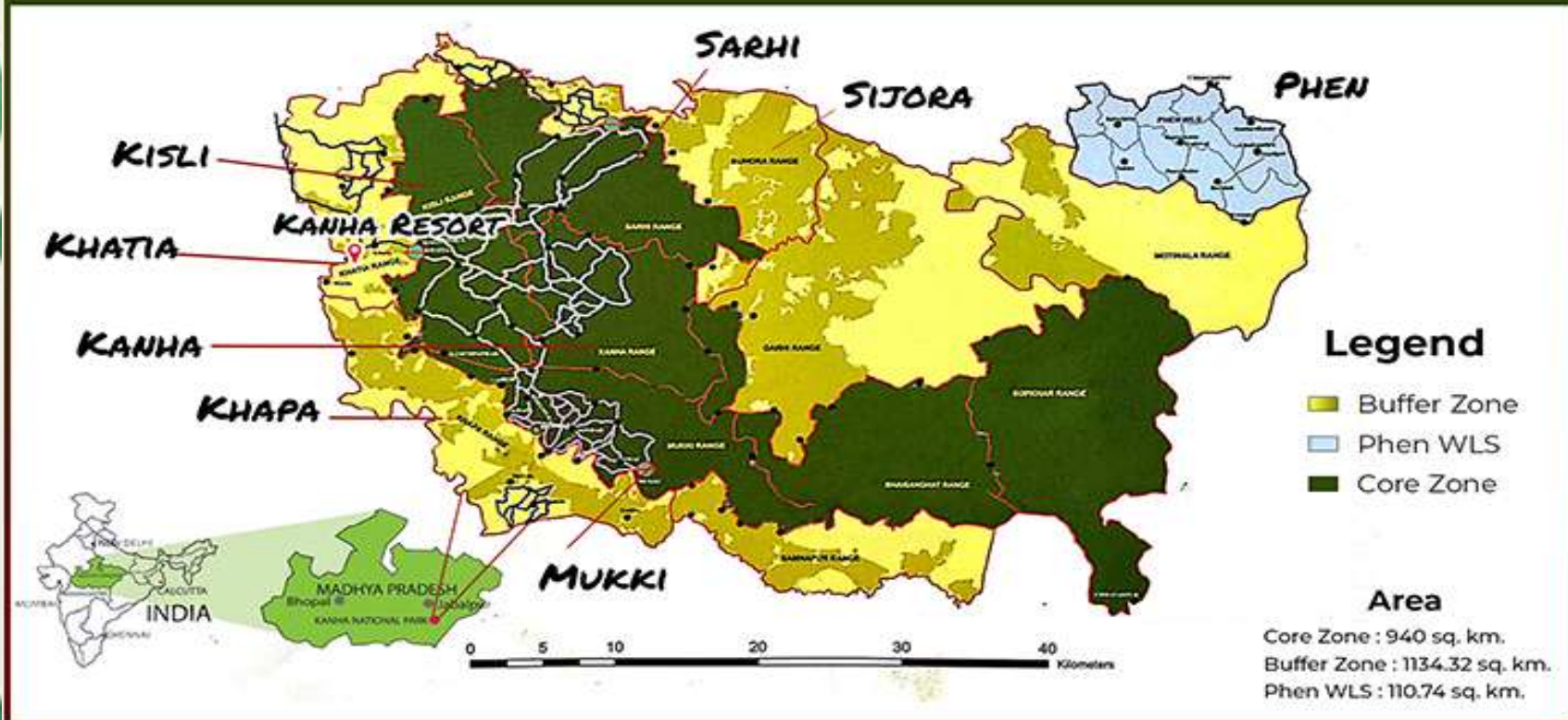
- The core areas are freed of all human activities.
- It has the legal status of a national park or wildlife sanctuary.
- Collection of minor forest produce, grazing, and other human disturbances are not allowed.

Buffer areas

- provide co-developmental inputs to surrounding villages for relieving their impact on core area.
- Collection of minor forest produce and grazing by tribals is allowed on a sustainable basis.
- provides supplementary habitat for dispersing tigers, besides offering scope for co-existence of human activity (tribals).



KANHA TIGER RESERVE AT A GLANCE



Kanha National Park is divided into Two Zones

Core Zone : Kanha, Kisli, Sarhi, Mukki

Buffer Zone: Khapa, Khatia, Phen, Sijora



Estimation of Tiger Populations

- The process of estimating the number of tigers - **'Tiger census'**.
- It is conducted at regular intervals of **4 years**
- It also helps to gather information on the **density of associated prey**.
- The most commonly used technique in the past was the **'Pugmark Census Technique'**.
- In this method, the **imprints of the pugmark of the tiger** were recorded and **used as a basis for the identification of individuals**.
- Recent methods used to estimate the numbers of tigers are **camera trapping** and **DNA fingerprinting**.



- In **camera trapping**, the photograph of the tiger is taken **and**

- **individuals are differentiated on the basis of the stripes** on the body.



- In the **latest technique of DNA fingerprinting**, tigers can be identified **from their scats**.

Census methodology

- **Double sampling based on ground-based surveys and actual images captured on camera-traps.**
- **Double sampling method was introduced in 2006 after the “pugmark” surveys were found to be inaccurate.**
- **GIS (MSTripES) used**



MSTripES – Technology in wildlife protection

- **MSTripES: Monitoring system for Tigers – Intensive Protection and Ecological Status.**
- It was **launched** across Indian tiger reserves **by NTCA and WII in 2010.**
- MSTripES is a **software-based monitoring system**, designed to assist wildlife protection.
- The system consists of **two components:**



- 1. field based protocols for patrolling, law enforcement, recording wildlife crimes and ecological monitoring,**
- 2. a customized GIS software for storage, retrieval, analysis and reporting.**



- The **Bengal tiger** is found **primarily in India** with **smaller populations in Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, China and Myanmar.**
- **It is the most numerous of all tiger subspecies**

Tiger-range countries



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