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## National Tiger Conservation Authority

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### Why in News

Recently, the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) has clarified that the tigers in the country have shown a **healthy annual growth rate of 6%**.

These findings are stated according to the **quadrennial All India Tiger Estimation conducted in 2006, 2010, 2014 and 2018.**

### Key Points

- It has been observed that the recorded growth of 6% **offsets natural losses** and keeps tigers at the **habitats carrying capacity level**.  
The carrying capacity of an environment is the maximum population size of a biological species that can be sustained in that specific environment, given the food, habitat, water, and other resources available.
- For the period **2012 to 2019**, the **average tiger deaths per year is 94.**
- National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) 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.

### Project Tiger

- **Project Tiger** is an ongoing **Centrally Sponsored Scheme** of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change providing **central assistance to the tiger States for tiger conservation** in designated tiger reserves.

- India now has as many as **2,967 tigers** in the wild, with more than half of them in **Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka**, according to the latest tiger estimation report for 2018.
- The population of tigers have **increased by 33%** since the last census in 2014 when the total estimate was 2,226.

**Source: PIB**