



drishti

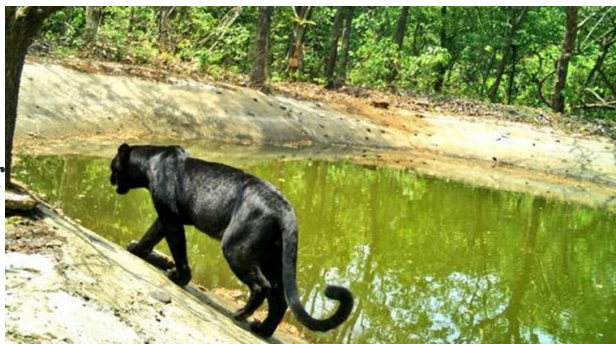
Black Panther in Netravali Sanctuary

 drishtiias.com/printpdf/black-panther-in-netravali-sanctuary

Why in News

A **black panther** was spotted in **Goa's Netravali Sanctuary**.

While the area is a known habitat of tigers, this is for the first time a black panther has been captured on camera in the sanctuary.



Black Panther

- A black panther is the **melanistic colour variant of any Panthera**, particularly of the **leopard in Asia and Africa**, and the **jaguar in the Americas**.
Melanism is the **increased development of the dark-colored pigment melanin** in the skin or hair.
- It is as shy as a normal leopard and very difficult to detect. It is mostly found in densely forested areas of southern India.
- **Areas where black panther has been spotted earlier:**
 - Periyar Tiger Reserve (Kerala)
 - Bhadra Tiger Reserve, Dandeli-Anshi Tiger Reserve and Kabini Wildlife Sanctuary (Karnataka)
 - Achanakmar Tiger Reserve (Chhattisgarh)
 - Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary (Goa)
 - Mudumalai Tiger Reserve (Tamil Nadu)

Netravali Wildlife Sanctuary

- Netravali Wildlife Sanctuary is located in **South Eastern Goa** and constitutes one of the vital corridors of the Western Ghats.
- It is bounded by **Cotigao wildlife sanctuary** on the eastern side and **Bhagwan Mahaveer Sanctuary and Mollem National Park** on the northern side.
- **Netravali or Neturli** is an important tributary of **River Zuari**, which originates in the sanctuary.
- It has two important waterfalls namely, **Savari** and **Mainapi**.
- Forests mostly consist of **moist deciduous vegetation** interspersed with evergreen and semi-evergreen habitat.
- **Fauna:** Leopard, Giant Squirrel, Mouse Deer, Nilgiri Wood Pigeon and Ceylon Frogmouth.
- **Other Protected Areas in Goa:**
 - Cotigao Wildlife Sanctuary
 - Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary
 - Bhagwan Mahaveer Sanctuary
 - Bondla Wildlife Sanctuary
 - Mollem National Park
 - Dr Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary

Source: IE