



Bandipur Tiger Reserve

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Why in News

A stranded wild elephant was rescued in Nugu reservoir, close to **Bandipur Tiger Reserve** in Karnataka.

According to the **Tiger census 2018**, Karnataka has the second highest number of tigers in the country after Madhya Pradesh.

Key Points

- **Establishment:** It was established in 1973 under **Project Tiger**. In 1985, by including adjacent areas from **Venugopala Wildlife Park**, it was enlarged and named as Bandipur National Park.
- **Location:** It is situated in two contiguous districts (Mysore and Chamarajanagar) of Karnataka and is located at the **tri-junction area of the States Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala**. It forms a part of **Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve**.
- **Ecological Diversity:** It lies in one of the richest biodiversity areas of the country. It is surrounded by
 - **Mudumalai Tiger Reserve** (Tamil Nadu) in the South,
 - **Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary** (Kerala) in the South-west &
 - The **Kabini Reservoir** separates the Bandipur and Nagarhole Tiger Reserve on the North-west.
- **Biodiversity:** It is endowed with rich floral and faunal diversity and is recognized as one of the **Mega Biodiversity Areas in the country**.
 - The Bandipur along with Nagarhole, Mudumalai, Sathyamangalam & Wayanad constitutes the single **largest Wild population of Tigers in the world**.
 - This Landscape is also home to the **single largest Asian Elephant population** in the world and is part of the **Mysore Elephant Reserve (MER)**.
- **Rivers and the Highest Point:** The park is located between the **Kabini river** in the north and the **Moyar river** in the south. The **Nugu river** runs through the park. The highest point in the park is on a hill called **Himavad Gopalaswamy Betta**.

- **Other Tiger Reserves in Karnataka:**

- Bhadra Tiger Reserve
- **Nagarahole Tiger Reserve**
- **Dandeli-Anshi Tiger Reserve**
- Biligiriranganatha Swamy Temple(BRT) Tiger Reserve
- Besides, **Malai Mahadeshwara Wildlife Sanctuary** has been proposed to be made a tiger reserve.

Source: TH