

Navegaon-Nagzira Tiger Reserve: Maharashtra

Why in News

Three labourers were killed and two others injured during an operation to douse a **forest fire** at **Navegaon-Nagzira Tiger Reserve (NNTR)** in Maharashtra.

Key Points

Location:

- It is situated in **Gondia and Bhandara districts** of Maharashtra.
 - Gondia District shares common boundaries with the **state of Madhya Pradesh** and **Chhattisgarh** in the **north and eastern** side respectively.
- Strategically, the Tiger Reserve is located in the heart of central Indian Tiger landscape which contributes almost one sixth of the total tiger population of the country.

Formation:

- It was notified as the 46th <u>Tiger Reserve</u> of India in December 2013.
- NNTR comprised of the notified area of Nawegaon National Park, Nawegaon Wildlife Sanctuary, Nagzira Wildlife Sanctuary, New Nagzira Wildlife Sanctuary and Koka Wildlife Sanctuary.

Connectivity:

NNTR has connectivity with the major tiger reserves in Central India like,

- Kanha and Pench tiger reserve in Madhya Pradesh,
- Tadoba-Andhari Tiger reserve in Maharashtra,
- Indravati Tiger Reserve in Chhattisgarh,
- Indirectly with the <u>Kawal</u> and <u>Nagarjuna Sagar</u> in <u>Telangana</u> and <u>Andhra</u>
 Pradesh and, <u>Achanakmar Tiger reserve</u> in <u>Chhattisgarh</u>.
- It is also connected to important tiger bearing areas like **Umred-Karhandla sanctuary** and Brahampuri Division (Maharashtra).

Flora:

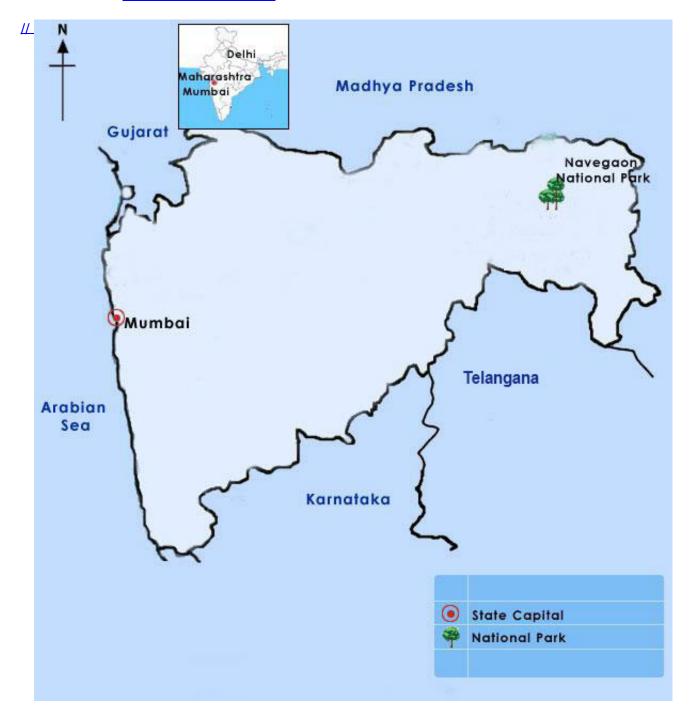
- The major forest type is "Southern Tropical Dry Deciduous Forest".
 - Few thorny plants are also found.
 - Bamboo occurs in abundance.

Fauna:

- Large Carnivores such as <u>leopards</u> and smaller carnivores like wild dogs, wolf jackals, jungle cats and also the good population of <u>sloth bears</u> are seen.
- The important herbivore includes **Cheetal, Sambar, Nilgai, Chousingha, Barking deer, Wild pig and** <u>Indian gaur</u>. Mouse deer has also been recorded from the area.
- More than 300 species of birds have been reported from the area.

Other Protected Areas in Maharashtra:

- Sahyadri Tiger Reserve.
- Melghat Tiger reserve.
- Great Indian Bustard Sanctuary.
- Karnala Bird Sanctuary.
- Sanjay Gandhi National Park.
- Pench National Park.



Source: IE

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