

## Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary: Odisha

## Why in News

Recently, the Odisha Government has decided to relocate around 420 families from four zero-connectivity villages in **Debrigarh wildlife sanctuary**.

 The relocation is aimed at reducing <u>man-animal conflict</u> and providing better living conditions to the displaced families.

## **Key Points**

## Location:

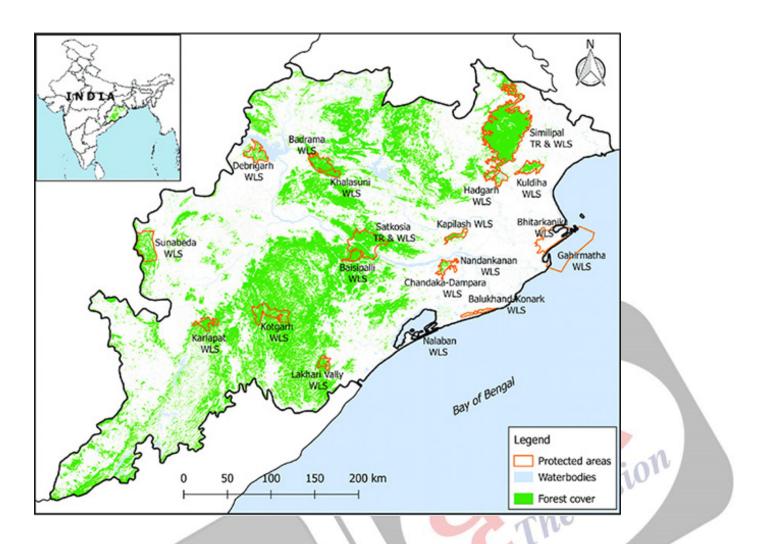
- It is situated in the **Bargarh district of Odisha** near <u>Hirakud dam</u> (<u>Mahanadi River</u>) and covers an area of 346.91 square kilometers.
- It is bounded on the east and north by the huge Hirakud reservoir.
- It was declared as a wildlife sanctuary on 8<sup>th</sup> February 1985.
- It is an **important site for in situ conservation of wildlife** and its habitat in the state of Odisha
- Biodiversity:

• Flora:

- Dry deciduous forests
- Fauna:

 Four-horned antelope, Indian leopard, Indian elephant, sambar, chital, gaur, etc.

- Major Protected Areas in Odisha:
  - National Parks:
    - Bhitarkanika National Park
    - Simlipal National Park
  - Wildlife Sanctuaries:
    - Badrama WLS
    - Chilika (Nalaban island) WLS
    - Hadgarh WLS
    - <u>Baisipalli WLS</u>
    - Kotagarh WLS
    - <u>Nandankanan WLS</u>
    - Lakhari Valley WLS
    - Gahirmatha (Marine) WLS



Source: DTE

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