

Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary

Why in News?

In Madhya Pradesh, **Indian wolves** will be fitted with <u>radio collars</u>, which will help in **researching** their habitat, diet and behaviour.

Key Points

About

- Three wolves from different packs in the Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary will be fitted with radio collars once permission is received from the National Tiger Conservation Authority.
- For this, a two-year study was started by the State Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur in February 2024.

Objective:

The aim of this research is to know about the life of wolves, their food, habitat, daily routine
and co-existence with animals like <u>tigers</u> and <u>leopards</u>.

Status of wolves in Madhya Pradesh:

- In 2022, wolves were counted across the country, in which Madhya Pradesh ranked first with the highest number of wolves.
- According to the census, there were a total of 3170 wolves in India, out of which 20% i.e. 772 wolves were found in Madhya Pradesh alone.

Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary:

- Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary is the largest wildlife sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh .
- This sanctuary is spread over an area of about 1197 square km in three districts of Madhya Pradesh, Sagar, Damoh and Narsinghpur.
- This protected area is located on the banks of two major river basins of India, the Narmada and the Ganges.
- It is the natural habitat of the Indian wolf (Canis lupus pallipes), a subspecies of the grey wolf.
 - In the year 1975, it was given the status of the state's largest sanctuary for the conservation of wolves.
- Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary is also considered a suitable area for cheetahs, hence
 it was given the status of Tiger Reserve a year ago.

National Tiger Conservation Authority

- The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) is a statutory body under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- It was established in the year 2006 by amending the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. The first meeting of the Authority was held in November 2006.
- It is the result of the efforts of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) that there has been a significant increase in the number of endangered tigers in the country.

