

## **Ranthambore Tiger Reserve**

## Source:IE

India is building its **first large-scale animal overpasses** on the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway under the **Bharatmala Pariyojana**, allowing wildlife to cross safely through the **Ranthambore Tiger Reserve's** (RTR) buffer zone.

- The overpasses are camouflaged with vegetation, and noise barriers to reduce traffic noise, helping protect animal behaviour and movement.
- Ranthambore Tiger Reserve: It is located in the Sawai Madhopur district, Rajasthan, nestled between the <u>Aravalli</u> and <u>Vindhya</u> hill ranges.
  - RTR includes Ranthambore National Park, Sawai Madhopur Sanctuary, Keladevi Sanctuary, and part of the National Chambal Gharial Sanctuary.
  - It is named after the historic Ranthambore Fort, a UNESCO World Heritage Site within the reserve.
- Rivers: RTR is bound by the Banas River in the north and the Chambal River in the south.
- Lakes: There are many lakes in the RTR named Padam Talab, Raj Bagh Talab and Malik Talab.
- **Vegetation:** Predominantly dry deciduous forest and tropical spike type.
- Fauna: Home to the Royal Bengal tiger, leopards, caracals, sambar, chital, chinkara, wild boars, and several species of birds like sarus crane, serpent eagle, and painted spurfowl.
  - As per the 2023 tiger census, RTR shelters 71 tigers and cubs, making it the third most densely populated tiger reserve after Corbett and Kaziranga.
- Fauna: Dominated by the **Dhok tree** (Anogeissus pendula), and other are **Babul** (Acacia nilotica), Gurjan (Lannea coromandelica), Gum (Sterculia urens), and Khair (Acacia catechu).

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