



MP Launches 'Rewilding' Initiative

Why in News?

Madhya Pradesh, known as the '**Tiger State**,' has launched a groundbreaking initiative called '**Rewilding**' under the leadership of Chief Minister **Dr. Mohan Yadav**.

Key Points:

- **About:** The '**Rewilding**' initiative focuses on the **reintroduction of key species** into their natural habitats and aims to become a model for wildlife conservation in India.
 - It involves reintroducing both predator and prey species that are vital to the ecosystem but are missing from forests.
 - In their absence, the food chain breaks down and the natural life cycle collapses, disrupting ecological balance.
- **Objective:**
 - To restore the **balance** to wildlife ecology.
 - To **revive extinct and endangered species**.
 - To promote **biodiversity**.
- **Implementation:** The **Forest Department** has created a **phased rewilding plan** to reintroduce **swamp deer** and other species, focusing on restoring the entire forest ecosystem, including **grasslands**, **riverscapes**, and supporting habitats.
 - The mission is being supported by the **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)**, the Forest Research Institute, and international experts.
 - Tribal and rural communities are also being engaged, creating opportunities for **eco-tourism** and livelihoods alongside wildlife protection.
- **Significance:** Rewilding plays a pivotal role in combating **climate change**, as it enhances carbon storage, reduces **carbon footprints**, and conserves vital resources like water and soil, thereby protecting natural ecosystems.
 - Beyond ecological benefits, rewilding significantly boosts **wildlife tourism**, contributing to the local economy, while preserving natural cycles untouched by human intervention.