

## Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve

*Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Conservation*

### Why in News?

*Translocated elephant 'Radhakrishnan' found dead recently in Tirunelveli's Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve*

- The Kalakkad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve (KMTR) is located in **Tirunelveli and Kanyakumari District of Tamil Nadu.**
- **Established in** - 1976.
- **Registered under** - Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act 1975.
- It was declared as the **"First Tiger Reserve of Tamil Nadu"** and the **17<sup>th</sup> Tiger Reserve** of India.
- KMTR consists of two adjacent sanctuaries namely Kalakkad Wildlife Sanctuary
  - Mundanthurai Tiger Sanctuary in Tirunelveli District and
  - Part of Veerapuli and Kilamalai Reserve Forests in Kanyakumari District.
- **Fauna** - The reserve is part of the Agasthyamalai Biosphere Reserve.
  - **Animals**- The reserve is home to Bengal tigers, leopards, sambar, Indian pangolin, elephants, gaur, and mouse deer.
  - **Reptiles** - Species include the King Cobra, python, and pit viper.
  - **Birds** - Great Indian Hornbill, Great Pied Hornbill, and Broad-tailed Grassbird.
- **Vegetation type** - This region has got vegetation types which gradually changes from dry thorn forest to dry deciduous.
- **Significance** - The reserve is also known as the "River Sanctuary" because 13 rivers originate from it, providing drinking water and water for agriculture to several districts.

### Reference

[The Hindu | Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve](#)



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