

Pilibhit Tiger Reserve

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Conservation

Why in News?

Recently, an adult male tiger was found dead in Pilibhit Tiger Reserve (PTR), marking the 27th tiger death in the reserve since 2012.

- **Location** - Pilibhit district, Uttar Pradesh, Lies along the Indo-Nepal border.
- It is **part of the Terai Arc Landscape in the upper Gangetic Plain**.
- **Established in** - 2008.
- **Under** - Section 38V of the **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**.
- **Approved by** - National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), statutory body under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) responsible for tiger conservation in India.
- It was designated as **India's 46th Tiger Reserve**.

Once declared, the state cannot de-notify a tiger reserve without the approval of the NTCA and the National Board for Wildlife.

- **Rivers & Water Bodies** - The **river Gomti originates from the reserve**, which is also the catchment of several others, like Sharda, Chuka, and Mala Khannot.
- **Vegetation & Flora** - The habitat is characterised by the North Indian moist deciduous type, having the sal forests, tall grasslands and swamps, maintained by periodic flooding from rivers.
- It is unique because it is one of the few **"alluvial" grasslands** in the world, similar to the Kaziranga ecosystem.
- **Fauna** - Tiger, leopard, fishing cat, swamp deer, spotted deer, hog deer, sambar, sloth bear, Bengal florican, gharial, etc.
- **Corridor Connectivity** - Directly linking Kishanpur Wildlife Sanctuary to the southeast and Shuklaphanta National Park (Nepal) via the Lagga-

Bagga corridor to the northeast.

- It also connects the Terai forests to Uttarakhand's Nandaur and Corbett landscapes, ensuring a continuous path for tigers, elephants, and rhinos across the Indo-Nepal border.
- **Special Significance** - One of the best examples of Terai ecosystem in India.
- Won the ***TX2 Award (2020)*** for doubling its tiger population

References

1. [ToI | Pilibhit Tiger Reserve](#)
2. [UP Gov | Pilibhit Tiger Reserve](#)

