# Tiger

## Why in News?

*To address the growing Tiger population in Maharashtra, the Maharashtra Forest Minister has recently proposed an "animal museum" with the support from Anant Ambani.*

- **Scientific Name –** Panthera Tigris.
- **Conservation Status**
  - **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)** – Endangered.
  - **Wildlife Protection Act,1972** – Schedule I.
  - **Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)** – Appendix I.
- **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), 2005 –** *Statutory* body and Nodal Agency under Ministry of *Environment Forest Climate and Change.*
- **All India Tiger Estimation** – Conducted by *NTCA and Wildlife Institute of India.*
- It is conducted every **4 years.**
- India is home to **70%** of world's tiger population and Annual growth rate is **6.1%**.
- **Recently -** Madhav National park in MP was Declared as 58$^{th}$ tiger reserve.
- **State-wise Tiger Distribution in India (2022)** – Madhya Pradesh (Highest in India), which is followed by Karnataka, Uttarakhand, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.
- **Methods Used for Estimation**
- **Camera Trapping** – Tigers are identified based on their **unique stripe patterns.**
- **M-STrIPES (Monitoring System for Tigers – Intensive Protection and Ecological Status)** – A GPS-based system for data collection.
- **Sign Surveys** – Tracking **pugmarks, scat.**
- **Line Transect Sampling** – Estimating **prey population** through field surveys.

| Conservation Efforts | |
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| Tiger Reserves | • Protected areas designated under Project Tiger.<br>• Governed under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.<br>• Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger.<br>• *58 Tiger Reserves* (As of March 2025)(58$^{th}$ in Madhav NP, Madhya Pradesh). |
| International Big Cats Alliance (IBCA) | • Aimed at conserving seven big cats such as Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar, and Puma. |
| International Awards for Tiger Reserves | • Tx2 Award (2010) aims to double the global tiger population by 2022. |
| Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF) | • A dedicated security force in sensitive reserves. |

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| Conservation Assured \| Tiger Standards (CA\|TS) | • International accreditation ensuring best management practices.<br>• 23 tiger reserves of India have received CA\|TS accreditation. |
| Strict Wildlife Crime Control Measures | • NTCA has a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for tiger deaths, ensuring transparency. |

**Reference**

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