

World's First Successful Scientific Reintroduction of Tigers

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Environment

Why in News?

The Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change hosted a national-level workshop, marking 18 years of the historic tiger restoration project in Sariska.

- **Publications Released** - The ministry launched 3 important programmatic documents:
 - *Road Map on Active Management of Tigers in India*
 - *Booklet on Reintroduction and Recovery of Tigers in India*
 - *Annual Report of Project Cheetah (Sept 2024-Dec 2025).*
- **Expanded Network**- India's network of protected tiger reserves has expanded substantially over the past decade, increasing from **46 to 58 reserves**.

India has successfully achieved its St. Petersburg Declaration target to double wild tiger numbers.

Sariska Tiger Reintroduction Program

- The Sariska Tiger Reintroduction Programme is widely recognised as the world's first successful scientific reintroduction of tigers into a habitat where the species had suffered local extinction.



Critical Lessons in Active Management

- The long-term success of reintroduction in ***Sariska and Panna*** was driven entirely by winning the trust and active support of local community stakeholders.
- In contrast, the absence of local community alignment led to failure in ***Odisha's Satkosia Tiger Reserve***.
- **Prey Base Augmentation** - Reintroducing large carnivores requires *in situ herbivore translocations*.
- Active management programs are utilizing translocations of ***Gaur and Barasingha*** to build high-density prey setups before carnivore releases.
- **Preparedness of Low-Density Reserves** - Representatives from structurally vulnerable, low-density landscapes presented their ecological baselines to evaluate their readiness for future tiger stocking.
- **Cheetah Cross-Learning** - A special session focused on ***Project Cheetah*** (the world's first inter-continental large carnivore reintroduction), mining operational lessons to guide future domestic wildlife recovery actions.

Reference

[DD India | Tiger Re-introduction](#)



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