

Kali tiger reserve

June 18, 2022

In news- Karnataka's first wild orchidarium to come up at **Kali Tiger Reserve** of Uttara Kannada district.

Key updates-

- The **orchidarium is being constructed at Nujji vilage of Joida (Supa) taluk** of the district and soon, it will be open for nature enthusiasts and visitors.
- **About 40 varieties of wild orchids that are found in KTR are being grown in the orchidarium.**
- **The Western Ghats is home for a rich orchid population** and a majority of them are found in the Kali Tiger Reserve, especially in the Anshi region of Uttara Kannada district.
- **Out of 170 orchid species that are found in Karnataka, 80 species are from the Anashi region alone.**
- Nearly 20 wild orchids are endemic to this region only. The orchidarium will act as a rescue and rehab site for wild orchids.
- **Orchids mainly occur in two varieties, epiphytic and terrestrial.**
- The new orchidarium is expected to help the researchers who can study orchid varieties at one repository.

Kali Tiger Reserve-

- **Kali Tiger Reserve, earlier known as Dandeli-Anshi Tiger Reserve** is located in Uttara Kannada District of Karnataka State.
- It was renamed to Kali Tiger Reserve in December 2015.
- Covering the taluks of Haliyal, Karwar and Joida, the

Kali Tiger Reserve (KTR) is part of the Uttara Kannada district of Karnataka.

- **The Kali River flows through the tiger reserve** and is the lifeline of the ecosystem and hence the name. The tiger reserve is spread over an **area of 1300 square kilometres.**
- **The Tiger Reserve comprises of two important protected areas of the region viz.,**
 - Dandeli Wildlife Sanctuary and
 - Anshi National Park.
- **Dandeli Wildlife Sanctuary (475.018 sq km) and Anshi National Park (339.866 sq km) are contiguous to each other** and form a single tract of protected area **located in biologically sensitive Western Ghats.**
- These two protected areas were administratively unified under Dandeli-Anshi Tiger Reserve (DATR) in the year 2007.
- **There are two sub-divisions, namely, Dandeli and Anshi wildlife sub-divisions, and consist of six ranges,** namely, Kulgi, Phansoli, Gund, Anshi, Kumbarwada, and Castlerock wildlife ranges.
- **Forests of the Tiger Reserve are primarily moist deciduous and semi-evergreen,** with excellent patches of evergreen forests in the westernmost parts as well as in deep valleys.
- **Animals found in the Tiger Reserve include** Tiger, Leopard, Elephant, Bison, Wild dog, Sambar, Spotted deer, Sloth bear, Wild boar, Hanuman langur, Bonnet macaque, varieties of reptiles and birds including all four species of hornbills as its residents., etc.
- **Kali Tiger Reserve is home to rare black panthers.**