# Nagarjunasagar Srisailam Tiger Reserve

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- The Nagarjunasagar Srisailam Tiger Reserve's tiger population is increasing (NSTR)
- The National Tiger Reserve of India (NSTR) is the country's largest.
- In Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, the reserve spans five districts: Kurnool, Prakasam, Guntur, Nalgonda, and Mahbubnagar.
- 75 percent of the world's tigers are found in India.
- It was notified in the year of 1978 and came under the protection of Project Tiger in 1983. In 1992, it was retitled as Rajiv Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary.

## **Geographical Aspects**

- The Tiger Reserve is located in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana and spans five districts. The Nallamala Hills dominate the landscape.
- The reserve contains the multipurpose reservoirs Srisailam and Nagarjunasagar.
- The Krishna River runs through the reserve's basin.

### **Fauna**

- It is home to a diverse range of wild animals.
- Many other animals, including leopards, rusty-spotted cats, pangolins, Mugger Crocodiles, Indian Rock Pythons, and innumerable bird species, can be found here, in addition to the Bengal Tiger, which is the apex predator.

#### Flora

- A wide range of trees, from tropical dry mixed deciduous forest in the south to southern thorn forest in the south.
- This region is also home to a diverse range of shrubs and bamboo thickets.
- The main types of forest biomes in the reserve are: southern tropical dry mixed deciduous forest, Hardwickia forest and Deccan thorn scrub forests with much Euphorbia scrub.
- Important plant species here are: Anogeissus latifolia (axlewood), Cleisthanthus collinus (odcha), Terminalia spp., Pterocarpus marsupium, Hardwickia binata (anjan tree), Boswellia serrata (Indian frankincense or salai), Tectona grandis (teak), Mundulea sericea and Albizia spp. (silkplants)

## **Project Tiger**

- Project Tiger is a Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change-sponsored scheme that began in 1973.
- Aim of providing central assistance to tiger states for tiger conservation in India's declared tiger reserves.
- The National Tiger Conservation Authority is in charge of the project (NTCA)