

Periyar tiger reserve

July 17, 2021

In news- Periyar Tiger Reserve (PTR) recently reintroduced into the wild an abandoned nine-month-old tiger cub named Mangala after rearing it in 'captivity' for two years.

About the reserve-

- It is a protected area located in the districts of Idukki and Pathanamthitta in Kerala.
- It is notable as an **elephant reserve and a tiger reserve.**
- It was declared as a **National Park in 1982.**
- The park forms the major watershed of two important **rivers – the Periyar and the Pamba.**
- The park is located high in the **Cardamom Hills and Pandalam Hills** of the south Western Ghats along the border with Tamil Nadu.
- The **highest peak in the park is Kottamala.**
- The other prominent peaks within the park are Pachayarmala, Vellimala, Sunderamala, Chokkampetti mala and Karimala.
- The sanctuary surrounds Periyar Lake, which was formed when the **Mullaperiyar Dam** was erected in 1895.
- The park is made up of **tropical evergreen and moist deciduous forests, grasslands.**
- The mammals include the gaur, sambar, wild pig, Indian giant squirrel, Travancore flying squirrel, jungle cat, Dhole, sloth bear, Nilgiri tahr, lion-tailed macaque, Nilgiri langur, Salim Ali's fruit bat and stripe-necked mongoose.