

Ranthambore Tiger Reserve

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- It lies in the eastern part of Rajasthan state in Karauli and Sawai Madhopur districts, at the junction of the Aravalli and the Vindhya hill ranges.
- The reserve **comprises the Ranthambore National Park as well as Sawai Man Singh and Keladevi Sanctuaries**, each with varied conservation history.
- Geographically, narrow corridors link the two sanctuaries to the reserve's core— the National Park.
- This isolated area with tigers in it represents the north-western limit of the Bengal tiger's distribution range and is an **outstanding example of Project Tiger's efforts for conservation in the country**.

The forest around the reserve

- The forest type is mainly tropical dry deciduous with 'dhak' (*Butea monosperma*), a species of tree capable of withstanding long periods of drought, being the commonest.
- This tree is also called as 'Flame of forest' and is one of the many flowering plants that add colour to the dry summers here.

Timeline of the reserve

- The forests around the Ranthambore Fort were once the **private hunting grounds of the Maharajas of Jaipur**. Their desire to preserve the game in these forests for sport was largely responsible for their conservation until the launch of Project Tiger.
- These were brought under the national project and **declared a tiger reserve** along with eight other sanctuaries and national parks in
- In 1980, 274.50 sq. km of the forest here was notified

as Ranthambhore National Park.

- **In 1992, the Tiger Reserve was expanded to include the adjoining Keladevi Sanctuary in the north and Sawai Man Singh sanctuary to the south along with other forests**
- Today it covers an area of 1334 sq. km.