

## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-APRIL 10,2023

### TAMIL NADU

- The five tiger reserves in Tamil Nadu - have performed well in terms of management effectiveness, according to the National Tiger Conservation Authority's (NTCA) Fifth Cycle Summary Report-2022.



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi released the report at an event held in Mysuru on April 9 to commemorate 50 years of Project Tiger.
- ✓ Anamalai Tiger Reserve (ATR) and the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve (MTR) have been categorized as 'excellent reserves' in Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE)-2022 rating.
  - ✓ The two reserves scored above 90% in the assessment done by NTCA in association with the Wildlife Institute of India.
  - ✓ These two are among the 12 reserves in India rated as 'excellent' among the 51 reserves assessed.
- ✓ The Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve (STR) and the Kalakkad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve (KMTR) are categorised as 'very good reserves' with a score between 75-89% in the MEE.
- ✓ The newly declared Srivilliputhur Megamalai Tiger Reserve (SMTR) scored 60.94% and is classified as a 'good reserve'.

- ✓ The parameter to arrive at the MEE framework score comprises six elements - context, planning, input, process, output and outcomes in a tiger reserve.
  - ✓ These six elements are further divided into 33 criteria which include mitigation of human-wildlife conflict, availability of adequate manpower and resources like vehicles, availability of funds, public participation in reserve management and services available for visitors.
  - ✓ The last and important tranche of indicators includes threats to the tiger population and whether the tiger population is increasing.
  - ✓ According to NTCA, this is the fifth cycle of assessment covering the 51 tiger reserves in the country.
- **Pichanur village panchayat in Madukkarai block - has bagged the first rank under the good governance category at the National Panchayat Awards-2023**

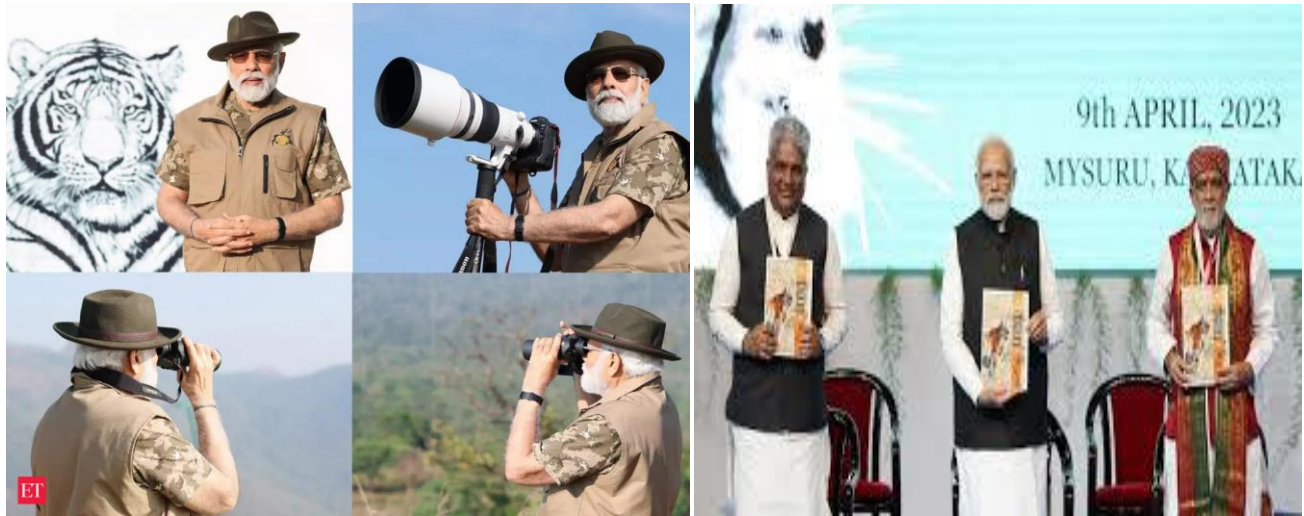


- ✓ With the award, Pichanur becomes the only local body in Tamil Nadu to receive the honour this year
- ✓ Pichanur village panchayat, which has a population of 6,261, has seven villages and nine wards
- ✓ The ministry of panchayati raj has been selecting best three panchayats under nine categories
  - ✓ These include poverty-free and enhanced livelihoods panchayat, healthy panchayat, child- friendly panchayat, water-sufficient panchayat, clean and green panchayat, self-sufficient infrastructure in panchayat, socially-secured panchayat, panchayat with good governance and women-friendly panchayat.
- ✓ The awards are given to village panchayats, blocks and district panchayats under two categories
  - ✓ These include Deen Dayal Upadhyay Panchayat Satat Vikas Puraskar (DDUPSVP – for individual theme-wise performance) and Nanaji Deshmukh Sarvottam Panchayat Satat Vikas Puraskar (for aggregate performance under all the themes).
- ✓ Apart from this, special category awards are also given to the best panchayats.
- ✓ Pichanur village panchayat participated in the award appraisal for the year of 2021-2022 under DDUPSVP for good governance

- ✓ Under the Deen Dayal Upadhyay Panchayat Satat Vikas Puraskar (DDUPSVP), Telangana bagged eight awards and topped the chart among states.
- ✓ In the Nanaji Deshmukh Sarvottam Panchayat Satat Vikas Puraskar (NDSPSVP), Telangana secured five awards.
- ✓ These awards would be presented in New Delhi on April 24 – the National Panchayat Raj Divas.

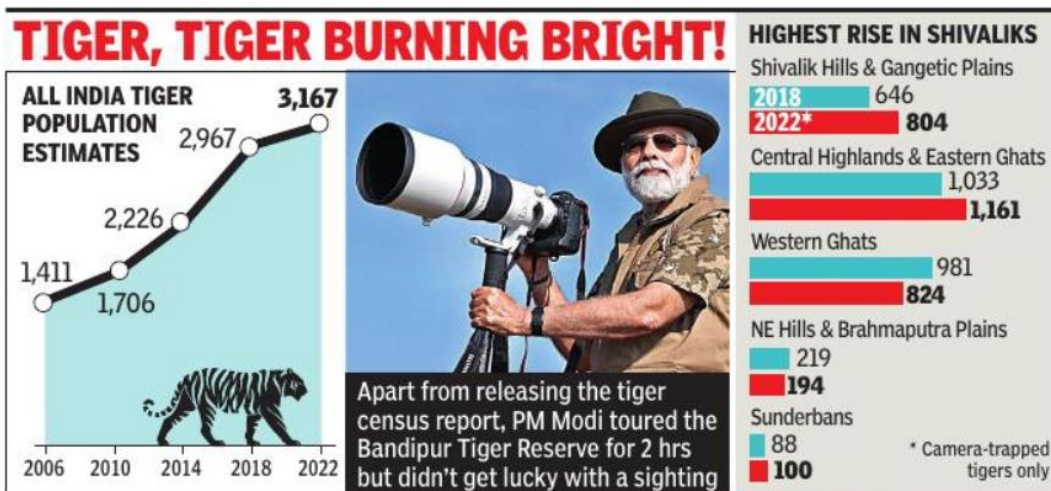
## NATIONAL

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi - released the latest tiger census data at a mega event to mark the completion of 50 years of 'Project Tiger' in Karnataka's Mysuru on April 9.**



- ✓ At the inaugural session of commemoration of 50 years of 'Project Tiger', the Prime Minister launched the first of its kind 'International Big Cat Alliance' (IBCA) and also released a summary report of the 5th cycle of Management Effective Evaluation of Tiger Reserves.
- ✓ The 97-nation IBCA will focus on protection and conservation of seven major big cats of the world – tigers, lions, leopards, snow leopards, pumas, jaguars and cheetahs.
- ✓ Further, the PM also released a booklet 'Amrit Kaal Ka Tiger Vision', presenting the vision for tiger conservation in the next 25 years and a commemorative coin on completion of 50 years of Project Tiger
- ✓ The tiger popular in India was 3,167 in 2022, revealed the fifth cycle of India's tiger census data released by Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- ✓ According to the data, the tiger population stood at 1,411 in 2006, 1,706 in 2010, 2,226 in 2014, 2,967 in 2018 and 3,167 in 2022
- ✓ The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), which started the tiger census in 2018, had deployed camera traps at 32,000 locations across 20 states.
- ✓ The headcount was the world's largest effort in terms of any wildlife headcount till date, involving a foot survey of 6.4 lakh km.





- ✓ Project Tiger was launched by India on April 1, 1973, to promote conservation and revive the dwindling tiger population.
- ✓ Initially, the scheme was launched in nine reserves of different States Assam, Bihar, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal over an area of approximately 18,278 sq. km.
- ✓ The number of tiger reserves has now increased to 53, encompassing an area of 75,500 sq km.
- ✓ India has around 3,000 tigers, more than 70% of the global wild tiger population, and the number is increasing at a rate of 6% per year, according to latest official figures.
- ✓ In July 2019, the Prime Minister had called for an 'Alliance of Global Leaders' to curb poaching and illegal wildlife trade in Asia, while releasing the fourth cycle of the country's tiger status report
- ✓ Before launching the conference, the PM arrived at Bandipur Tiger Reserve, which is India's first biosphere reserve.
  - ✓ Narendra Modi is the first PM to visit Bandipur Tiger Reserve, which ranks among the top tiger sanctuaries in India.
  - ✓ In 1973 when Project Tiger was launched, Karnataka's Bandipur was among the first nine reserves that were brought under the flagship programme
  - ✓ The Tiger Reserve is located partly in Gundlupet taluk of Chamarajanagar district and partly in H.D.Kote and Nanjangud taluks of Mysuru District.
  - ✓ The present area under the control of Bandipur Tiger Reserve is 912.04 Sq. Km.
  - ✓ The Reserve is an important part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve that constitutes Karnataka's Rajiv Gandhi National Park (Nagarahole) to its Northwest, Tamil Nadu's Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary to its South, and Kerala's Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary to its Southwest.
- ✓ After a jungle safari covering 22km at the Bandipur Tiger Reserve in Karnataka, PM Modi visited the century-old Theppakadu elephant camp, the oldest elephant camp in the country.

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi felicitated the mahout couple Bomman and Bellie, who featured in the Oscar-winning documentary short film, 'The Elephant Whisperers', at Theppakadu elephant camp in the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve (MTR) in the Nilgiris.
- ✓ At Masinagudi, tribal communities such as Todas, Kothas and Kurumbas performed tribal music and dance.
- ✓ The Prime Minister also interacted with Field Directors of tiger reserves that have scored highest in the recently concluded 5th cycle of Management Effectiveness Evaluation exercise.

## COMMITTEES

- **The government - is likely to set up the 16th finance commission this year**
- ✓ Among other things, the commission will spell out the ratio in which tax is to be divided between the Centre and states for five years, beginning April 1, 2026.
- ✓ The members of the commission and its Terms of Reference (ToR) are being worked out.
- ✓ Finance commission is a constitutional body that gives suggestions on Centre-state financial relations.
- ✓ The previous finance commission submitted its report on November 9, 2020, for the 5 fiscals — 2021-22 to 2025-26 — to the President.
- ✓ The 15th commission under N K Singh had kept the tax devolution ratio at 42% — at the same level suggested by the 14th commission.
- ✓ The central government accepted the report of the commission, and accordingly, the states are being given 42% of the divisible tax pool of the Centre during the period.
- ✓ The 15th finance commission's recommendations include the fiscal deficit, debt path for the Union and states, and additional borrowing room to states based on performance in power sector reforms.
- ✓ According to the glide path for fiscal consolidation, the government aims to bring down the fiscal deficit to 4.5% of GDP by FY26.

