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National parks in India are IUCN category II (National Park) protected areas.

IUCN protected area categories, or IUCN protected area management categories, are categories used to classify protected areas in a system developed by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

The Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 is an Act of the Parliament of India enacted for protection of plants and animal species.

Before 1972, India only had five designated national parks.

India's first national park was established in 1936 as Hailey National Park, now known as Jim Corbett National Park, Uttarakhand.
Project Tiger is a tiger conservation programme launched in 1973 by the Government of India during Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's tenure. 9 National parks and 6 tiger reserves.

### Tiger Reserves of Madhya Pradesh

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<th>Tiger Reserve</th>
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Kanha National Park

Kanha Tiger Reserve, also called Kanha National Park, is one of the tiger reserves of India and the largest national park of Madhya Pradesh, state in the heart of India.
The present-day Kanha area was divided into two sanctuaries, Hallon and Banjar, of 250 and 300 km\(^2\) respectively.

Kanha National Park was created on 1 June 1955 and in 1973 was made the Kanha Tiger Reserve Under Tiger Project.

Today it stretches in two districts Mandla and Balaghat. Kanha National Park extends over an area of over 1,940 square km, of which 940 square km is designated core area and the rest is buffer.

Together with a surrounding buffer zone of 1,067 km\(^2\) and the neighboring 110 km\(^2\) Phen Sanctuary it forms the Kanha Tiger Reserve.

This makes it the largest National Park in Central India.
The park has a significant population of Bengal tiger, Indian leopards, the sloth bear, barasingha and Indian wild dog.

It is also the first tiger reserve in India to officially introduce a mascot, "Bhoorsingh the Barasingha"

Further the park is being divided into 6 ranges for better management:

Kisli, Kanha, Sarhi and Mukki in the western block; and Bhaisanaghat and Supkhar in the eastern sector which are closed for the public
The International Tiger Day was organized by the Kanha Tiger Reserve on the 29th July, 2017, at the Baghira Jungle Resort, Mocha.

In 2017, the International Tiger Day was celebrated with the slogan  

*Fresh Ecology For Tigers’ Protection.*

The day was founded in 2010 at the St. Petersburg Tiger Summit, with the aim to double the big cat population by 2022.
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The International Tiger Day
29th July, 2017

Stamps were also issued, only the 2\textsuperscript{nd} in the history of Kanha National Park that stamps were issued.
1 June 1955

1 June 2005

50th anniversary
Chutka nuclear project in Madhya Pradesh

Farmer protests

The site is about 100km from Jabalpur and the famous marble rock formations on the Narmada and a mere 35k from Kanha national park.

3 districts affected
Mandla, Jabalpur and Seoni districts
Controversy

Nestled amidst the thick jungles of Kanha National Park in Madhya Pradesh lies Jholar village.

**Baigas** are a sparsely distributed **tribal community** and a particularly vulnerable tribal group. Most claim they were forcefully evicted by officials from the nearby tiger reserve and moved to inadequate settlements in the name of forest and tiger conservation.

**Gonds and Baigas** are the native tribes of the area.
The jungle has inspired evolution of fiction, too, with locals citing Rudyard Kipling’s ‘Jungle Book’ and Mogli stories, emanating from the Kanha-Pench corridor.

Banjar river
The Surpan River
Panna National Park

Panna National Park is a national park located in Panna and Chhatarpur districts of Madhya Pradesh in India.

It was established in 1981.

It has an area of 542.67 km².

It was declared in 1994 as the twenty second Tiger reserve of India and the fifth in Madhya Pradesh.

It was designated as Biosphere Reserve on 25 August 2011.
The dam at Daudhan is proposed to be 77 metres high and 2,031 metres wide. A 221 km long canal will also be built to transfer the water from the Ken to the Betwa river basin to irrigate an estimated 6.35 lakh hectares of land in parched Bundelkhand.

The 221-km concrete canal will pass through Jhansi, Banda and Mahoba districts of Uttar Pradesh and Chhatarpur, Panna and Tikamgarh districts of MP

species such as “tiger, vultures and gharial are key flagship species that are likely to be impacted by the project
In 2009, **Panna National Park** made international headlines when it lost every single tiger to poaching.

**Panna National Park** started to monitor the movement of tiger with the help of Drones from 2017.
Satpura National Park

Satpura National Park is located in the Hoshangabad district of Madhya Pradesh in India.

Its name is derived from the Satpura range.

Along with adjoining Pachmarhi & Bori Sanctuaries, Satpura National Park it covers 1427 km², otherwise it covers an area of 524 km².

It was set up in 1981

By the year 1999, the park was added to Tiger Project Network and became Bodi-Satpura Tiger Reserve.
Bandhavgarh National Park

It is one of the popular national parks in India located in the Umaria district of Madhya Pradesh.

The park derives its name from the most prominent hillock of the area, which was said to be given by Hindu Lord Rama to his brother Lakshmana to keep a watch on Lanka (Ceylon). Hence the name Bandhavgarh (Sanskrit: Brother's Fort).

Bandhavgarh was declared as national park in 1968 with a core area of 105 km2.
It was realized that protection of just the 105 km² of prime Bandhavgarh habitat was not enough, so in 1982, three more ranges, namely Khitauli, Magdhi, and Kallawah were added to Tala range (the original Bandhavgarh National Park) to extend the area of Bandhavgarh to 448 km².

As Project tiger extended its activities and area of influence, Bandhavgarh was taken into its folds in 1993, and a core area of 694 km² was established including the previously named ranges and the Panpatha Sanctuary along with a buffer area of 437 km² which was declared as the Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve.

Bandhavgarh has one of the highest density of Bengal tigers known in the world.

Maharaja Martand Singh of Rewa captured the first white tiger in this region in 1951 and it was named Mohan.
Madhav National Park

It is situated in Shivpuri District of Gwalior region in northwest Madhya Pradesh, India.

It was named after Madho Rao Scindia, the Maharaja of Gwalior belonging to the Scindia dynasty of the Marathas.

Shivpuri town is located on Agra to Bombay National Highway-3.

It was established in 1958 with an area of 354 km².

Deep inside the Madhav National Park, at its highest point, stands the George Castle at a height of almost 484.0 m (1,587.9 ft).

The castle was built in 1911 by the Scindia ruler Madho Rao Scindia.
Pench National Park

It is in Seoni and Chhindwara districts of Madhya Pradesh in India.

It derives its name from the Pench River that flows through the park from north to south dividing the park into almost equal western and eastern halves, the well forested areas of Seoni and Chhindwara districts respectively.

It was declared a sanctuary in 1977 but raised to the status of national park in 1983.

In 1992, it was established as a tiger reserve.

The park is famous for rafting.
The Pench Tiger Reserve, spread over Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh, is a crucial corridor in central India for the movement of tigers between the Pench and Kanha reserves.

Understandably, the project to widen National Highway 7, which passes through the Pench reserve, into four lanes has become a bone of contention.

Work on the project is in full swing after the National Highways Authority of India approached the standing committee of the National Board for Wildlife (NBW) in August 2015 and secured the nod for widening 9 km of road, between Khawasa and Rookhad in Madhya Pradesh.
Fossils National Park is situated in Mandla district of Madhya Pradesh in India.

This national park has plants in fossil form that existed in India anywhere between 40 million and 150 million years ago spread over seven villages of Mandla District (Ghuguwa, Umaria, Deorakhurd, Barbaspur, Chanti-hills, Chargaon and Deori Kohani).

It was declared National Park in 1983.
Sanjay National Park

Sanjay National Park is a beautiful place, located in the Sidhi district of the state of Madhya Pradesh.

The park is a part of the Sanjay-Dubri Tiger Reserve.

It was declared as National Park in the year of 1981. Total area of the park is 466.88 Km².

Sanjay-Dubri wildlife sanctuary was established in the year of 1975. Total area of the sanctuary is 364.59 Km².

Total area of both Sanjay-Dubri wildlife sanctuary and Sanjay national park is 831.47 Km².

Sanjay National Park was listed as a paradise for wildlife in Madhya Pradesh State of India.
A large part of the Sanjay National Park is under the control of Chhattisgarh State after its bifurcation from Madhya Pradesh State.

Part of the Sanjay National Park that came under Chhattisgarh State Government was renamed as Guru Ghasidas National park.
Van Vihar National Park

It is located adjacent to Upper Lake of Bhopal city at Madhya Pradesh in Central India.

It is spread over an area of 4.45 sq. km. area and was declared as a National Park in year 1983.

It has been developed and managed as a zoological park in which wild animals are caged in their natural surrounding.

This land is under strict protection, due to it has now transformed into an island full of greenery surrounded by habitation.

Van Vihar serves as green lung for the capital town of Madhya Pradesh
**Panna**, the six-year-old tiger at **Van Vihar** has got a new softball to kill boredom and keep himself active.

*Chasing the ball and playing with it will give necessary exercise to the tiger*

The 15-kg ball made of soft wood dipped in meat creates an aroma which attracts the big cat. As soon as the aroma of meat gets vanished from the ball, the tiger is likely to lose interest in it. For that, the forest authorities dip the ball in meat every week.
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