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News: Bandipur Tiger Reserve (BTR)

- Recently, the government has imposed restrictions on the annual jatara (last Monday of Kartika month) of Beladakuppe Sri Mahadeshwaraswamy Temple which is in the core area of Bandipur Tiger Reserve (BTR).

Bandipur Tiger Reserve

- Bandipur Tiger Reserve lies in one of the richest biodiversity areas of our country representing Western Ghats Mountains Biogeography Zone”, surrounded by Mudumalai Tiger Reserve (Tamil Nadu) in the South, Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary (Kerala) in the Southwest & on the North West Side the Kabini Reservoir separates the Bandipur and Nagarahole Tiger Reserve.
- The reserve is recognized as one of the Mega Biodiversity Areas in the country and is home to rich floral and faunal diversity.
- BTR is a key component of the Western Ghats landscape, which houses 1/8th of the world's tiger population.

Establishment

- It was established in 1973 under Project Tiger. In 1985, by including adjacent areas from Venugopala Wildlife Park, it was enlarged and named Bandipur National Park.

Location

- It is situated in two contiguous districts (Mysore and Chamarajanagar) of Karnataka and is located at the tri-junction area of the States Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

Biosphere Reserve

- The Bandipur Tiger Reserve is part of the Mysore Elephant Reserve and is an important component of the country's first biosphere reserve, the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.
- The landscape spanning Bandipur, Nagarahole, Mudumalai, and Wayanad complex is home not only to the highest number of tigers in the country – about 724, but also to the largest Asian Elephant population.

Rivers and the Highest Point

- The park is located between the Kabini River in the north and the Moyar River in the south. The Nugu River runs through the park. The highest point in the park is on a hill called Himavad Gopalswamy Betta.