



## **JIM CORBETT NATIONAL PARK OF INDIA - A CASE STUDY ON PROJECT TIGER RESERVES**

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**Ms. Payal Pandey**

### **ABSTRACT**

*Project Tiger is a project to ensure a viable population of tiger in India for Scientific, economic, aesthetic, cultural and ecological values and to preserve for all time areas of biological importance as a natural heritage for the benefit, education and enjoyment of the people. The present study is restricted to Jim Corbett Reserves, covering area with Tiger Population*

**Key words :** *Jim Corbett, Tiger reserves, Indian National Park.*

### **INTRODUCTION**

Corbett Tigers Reserve has a great variety of fauna on account of habitat diversity. Jim Corbett National Park has always been famous for their resident tigers. Jim Corbett National Park, India is the 1st and oldest National Park of India. It was one of the nine tiger reserves created at the launch of the Project Tiger in 1973.

Jim Corbett National Park has a strong historical background which can be traced from the early 1800 when its forest were private property of the rulers of the Tehri Garhwal.

Around the 1820's this part of the state was parted to the British Rulers in return of the assistance provided during the Gurkha invasion.

In 1858 the first step towards protection of Corbett National Park forest was initiated by Major Ramseyin. The Forest Department took control of the area and declared it as Reserve Forest in 1879 under the Forest Act.

1934 Governor Malcolm Hailey supported the proposal and declared the Reserve Forest. On August 6th 1936, The U.P National park act was enacted and Hailey National Park named after Governor Hailey came into being as India's first National Park and the world's third covering an area of about 325 sq.kms.

The Wildlife protection Act was enacted in the year 1972 and Corbett National Park was one of the first National Park to launch Project Tiger

a Government Sponsored program for the conservation of the Tiger and its habitat on 1st April 1973.

In 1991 the area of the reserve was further increased with the inclusion of the Sonandi Wildlife Sanctuary. Today Corbett National Park stands as one of the prime examples of the efforts to conserve and is one of the best Protected Forest and Tiger Reserve in the World.

Initially, the Project started with a Tiger Reserve covering an area of 16,339 sq.km with a population of 268 Tigers. At present there are 27 Tiger Reserves covering an area of 37761 sq. km with a population of 1498 Tigers. This amount to almost 1.14% of the total geographical area of the country.

The population of tigers in the country has increased significantly to about 4000 from less than 2000 at the time of launch of the project

During the IX plan period four New Tiger Reserve were declared namely.

No	Tiger Reserve	State	Year of Formation	Area (sq. km)
1	Bhadra	Karnataka	1998-99	492
2	Pech	Maharashtra	1998-99	257
3	Pakui-Nameri	Arunanchal Pradesh / Assam	1999-2000	1206
4	Bori-Satpura Panchmarhi	Madhya Pradesh	1999-2000	1436
			Total	3441

### Objective

1. The main objective of Project Tiger is to ensure a viable population of Tiger in India
2. Main objective under this scheme include wildlife management protection measures and site specific eco-development to reduce the dependency of local communities on Tiger Reserve Resources.

### Research Methodology

The research methodology used in the study is discussed as under.

### Primary Data

The primary data used in the study has been collected through a questionnaire with the sample size of 100 people of Jim Cornett, India. This is prepared in order to know the Area under Project Tiger from the year of creation.

The second data was collected from various sources like magazines, Books, Brochures, Internet and Newspaper etc.

**Table 1**  
Area Under Project Tiger

Area	Year of Creation
15000	1973-74
1000	1978-79
10000	1982-83
500	1987-88
1000	1992-93
1000	1993-94
5000	199-2000

In the study of Table 1 it shows that in early years the area under project tiger was 15000 and after that in the other years the area was decreased to a great margin. The maximum area undertaken for project tiger was in the year 1973-74 and 1982-83. Rest the area undertaken was in the range from 500 to 5000.

**Table 2**  
AREA OF INCREASES

From 1973 to 78	15000
From 1979 to 80	Area was further increased to about 18000 that 3000 area was increased in total
From 1981 to 94	Area was further increased to about 30000 that is 12000 area was increased in total in comparison from 1979-80
From 1999-2000	Area was increased to 1000 in total

Table 2 shows that the area of increases were good that is it increased to 3000 in 1979-80 and further increased to 12000 in 1991-94 but after that the increases were very less.

Name of the Tiger Reserves in Tiger range states with the year of creation and area

S.No.	Year of Creation	Name of Tiger Reserve	State	Total Area (sq.km)
1	1973-74	Bandipur	Karnataka	866
2	1999-2000		Nagarhole (extension)	642
3	1973-74	Corbett	Uttaranchal	1316
4	1973-74	Kanha	Mahdy Pradesh	1945
5	1973-74	Manas	Assam	2840
6	1973-74	Melghat	Maharashtra	1677
7	1973-74	Palamau	Jharkhand	1026
8	1973-74	Ranthambhore	Rajasthan	1334
9	1973-74	Similipal	Orissa	2750
10	1973-74	Sunderbans	West Bengal	2585
11	1978-79	Periyar	Kerala	777
12	1978-79	Sariska	Rajasthan	866
13	1982-83	Buxa	West Bengal	759
14	1982-83	Indravati	Chattisgarh	2799
15	1982-83	Nagarjunsagar	Andhra Pradesh	3568
16	1982-83	Namdapha	Arunachal Pradesh	1985
17	1987-88	Dudhwa	Uttar Pradesh	811
18	1999-2000		Katerniaghat (extension)	551
19	1988-89	Kalakad-Mundanthurai	Tamil Nadu	800
20	1989-90	Valmiki	Bihar	840
21	1992-93	Pench	Madhya Pradesh	758
22	1993-94	Tadoba-Andhari	Maharashtra	620
23	1993-94	Bandhavgarh	Madhya Pradesh	1162
24	1994-95	Panna	Madhya Pradesh	542
25	1994-95	Dampha	Mizoram	500
26	1998-99	Bhadra	Karnataka	492
27	1998-99	Pench	Maharashtra	257
28	1999-2000	Pakhui-Nameri	Arunachal Pradesh-Assam	1206
29	1999-2000	Bori, Satpura Panchmari	Madhya Pradesh	1486
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37761</b>

In the overall details given above it shows that there are very less area for Tiger Reserve in India. For Tiger Protection. Not much stress is made in the area enlargement for the Protection of Tigers. Since very less area is there for Tigers, nor much interest is taken for Project Tiger.

### **Conclusion And Suggestion**

In compiling this very brief but pertinent review it is clear that there are a variety of diverse problems that our 19 Project Tiger reserves face. These are some of the lungs through which our sub-continent breathes. They are vital to the future of man. Since Project Tiger started 20 years ago the population of India has increased by 300 million people and over 100 million live stock.

All the Tiger Reserves face increasing biotic pressure that is why the total Reserve are less and there is less increase in the total area of the reserve..

- To resolve it site specific eco-development plans are being formulated to ensure the participation of the local communities in the protection of these vital natural resources.
- Our Endeavour is to ensure their survival, reduce the pressures on them and create a genuine harmony between local communities and these 19 tiger reserves.
- Project Tiger Reserves and all the biodiversity that abounds in them will not be harvested for commercial exploitation, used for dam sites or other mega or mini projects.
- All Tiger Reserves face increasing threats from the poachers and smugglers of animals, wood and other vital forest produce.
- The tiger-bone trade booms in the Far East. India will take vital steps not only to ensure that her tigers are safe from external threats but also rally world communities to oppose the use of tiger-bones in Eastern medicine.
- A new strategy will unfold to strengthen the protection of these areas in the light of new pressures and effective legal procedures formulated for quick and timely action.
- In many Tiger Reserves population estimates especially as far as predators and their prey base are concerned suffer from large margins of errors, either due to over estimation or under estimation

of numbers. Even the pug mark method for counting tigers has problems of field implementation in many areas. In several areas tiger populations have or appear to have reached their optimum capacities in the fast five years.

### **Suggestion**

- Tiger is symbol of wilderness and well-being of the ecosystem. By conserving and saving tigers wilderness ecosystem is conserved. In nature, barring human beings and their domesticates, rest of the ecosystem is wild. Hence conserving wilderness is important and crucial to maintain the life support. So saving the ecosystem which is crucial for man's own survival
- Elimination of all forms of human exploitation and biotic disturbance from the reserve.
- Monitoring the faunal and floral changes over time and carrying out research about wildlife.

### **References**

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