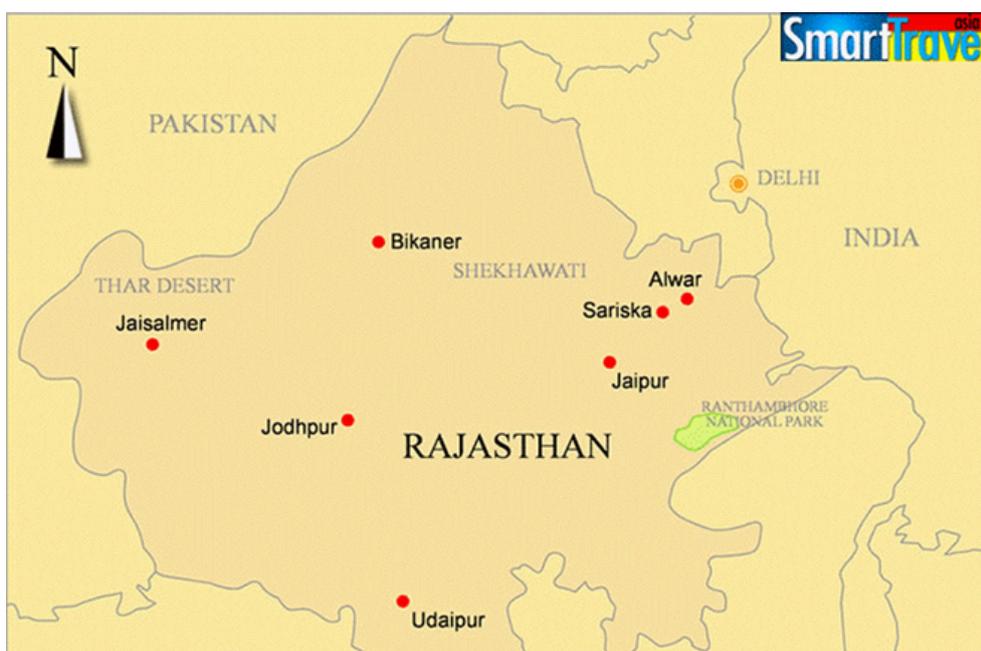


**01 July 2025**

**Context:** The Central Government's initiative to alter the boundaries of the Sariska Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan in order to reopen 50 previously closed mines has sparked significant opposition. The proposal suggests modifying the boundaries to facilitate the reopening of 50 mines (including marble, dolomite, limestone, and mason stone).



## About Sariska Tiger Reserve:

**Location:** Situated in the Alwar district of Rajasthan, nestled within the Aravalli Hills.

## History and Status:

- Designated as a wildlife sanctuary in 1958, established as a tiger reserve in 1978 under Project Tiger, and recognized as a national park in 1982.
- Notable for being the first reserve globally to successfully relocate tigers following local extinction in 2004.

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## **Features of the Tiger Reserve:**

- **Total area:** 1203.34 km<sup>2</sup> (Core: 881 km<sup>2</sup>, Buffer: 322.23 km<sup>2</sup>).
- **Terrain:** Comprises scrub-thorn arid forests, dry deciduous forests, grasslands, and rocky hills.
- **Fauna:** Home to tigers, leopards, nilgai, sambhar, chital, peafowls, serpent eagles, vultures, and horned owls.
- **Ecological Zone:** Part of the Khathiar-Gir dry deciduous forest ecoregion.
- Serves as a crucial link in the Northern Aravalli Leopard and Wildlife Corridor.

## **Tiger Revival Timeline:**

- **2004:** The reserve was devoid of tigers due to poaching activities.
- **2008–2010:** Tigers were relocated from Ranthambore through aerial translocation.
- **2025:** The tiger population has increased to 48, demonstrating the success of conservation efforts.