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BIOSPHERE RESERVES  
& TIGER RESERVES**



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# CONTENTS

■ Biodiversity Hotspots .....	01
■ Biodiversity Hotspots in India.....	02
■ Biodiversity Hope Spots .....	04
■ Biosphere Reserves .....	04
■ Tiger Reserves .....	08

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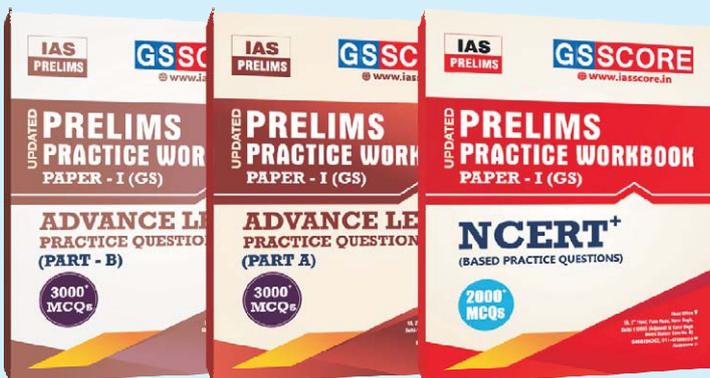
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# BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOTS, BIOSPHERE RESERVES

## Biodiversity Hotspots

- A biodiversity hotspot is a region with a **high level of endemic species** that are under threat from humans.
- **The term hotspot was introduced in 1988 by Norman Myers, when he identified 10 tropical forest hotspots characterised by exceptional level of plant endemism and by serious levels of habitat loss.**
- In 1990 Myers added further 8 hotspots including mediterranean type ecosystem.
- Conservation International adopted Myers hotspots as its institutional blueprint in 1989.
- According to the Conservation International the criteria for determining a hotspot are:
  - ▶ The area should support **>1500 endemic species,**
  - ▶ It must have **lost over 70 % of the original habitat**
- The **North American Coastal Plains** is the latest addition to the list of Biodiversity Hotspot of the world to become the 36<sup>th</sup> Biodiversity Hotspot.

## World's 36 Biodiversity Hotspots

### I. Africa

- Cape Floristic Region
- Coastal Forests of Eastern Africa
- Eastern Afro-montane
- Guinean Forests of West Africa
- Horn of Africa
- Madagascar\* **It has been declared as the hottest hotspot.**
- Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany
- The Succulent Karoo

**NOTE: Eastern and Coastal Forests of Tanzania/Kenya have been declared as the hottest hotspot.**

### II. Asia-Pacific

- East Melanesian Islands
- Himalaya
- Indo-Burma
- Japan
- Mountains of Southwest China
- New Caledonia
- New Zealand
- Philippines
- Polynesia-Micronesia
- Southwest Australia
- Forests of Eastern Australia (new)
- Sundaland

- Wallacea
- The Western Ghats and Sri Lanka

### III. Europe and Central Asia

- Caucasus
- Irano-Anatolian
- Mediterranean Basin
- Mountains of Central Asia

### IV. North and Central America

- California Floristic Province
- Caribbean Islands\* **It has been declared as the hottest hotspot.**
- Madrean Pine-Oak Woodlands
- Mesoamerica
- North American Coastal Plains

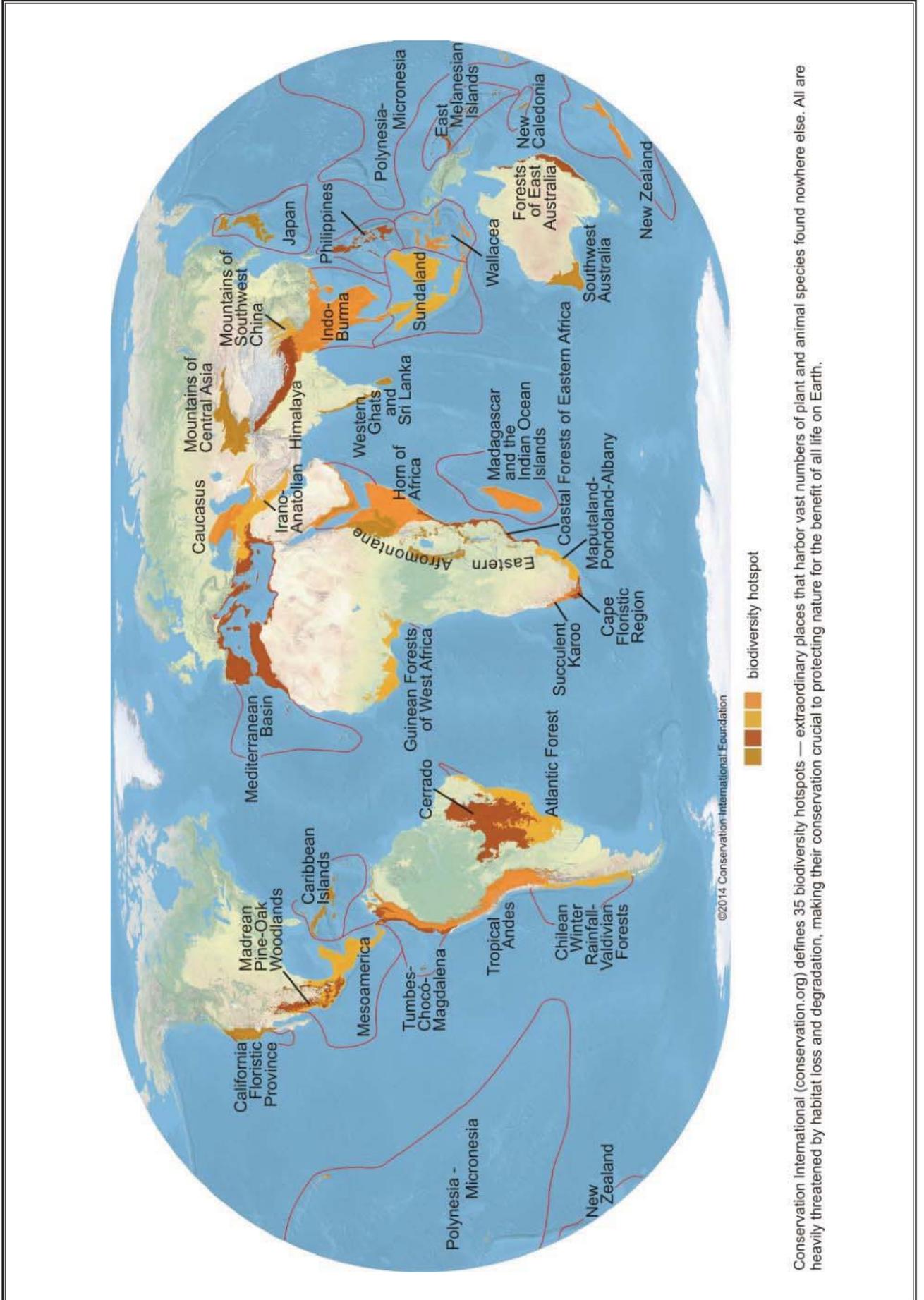
### V. South America

- Atlantic Forest\* **It has been declared as the hottest hotspot.**
- Cerrado
- Chilean Winter Rainfall-Valdivian Forests
- Tumbes-Chocó-Magdalena
- Tropical Andes

## Biodiversity Hotspots in India

- **Himalaya:** Includes the entire Indian Himalayan region (and that falling in Pakistan, Tibet, Nepal, Bhutan, China, and Myanmar).
- **Indo-Burma:** Includes entire North-eastern India, **except Assam and Andaman group of Islands** (and Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, and southern China).
- **Sundaland:** Includes Nicobar group of Islands (and Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei, Philippines).
- **The Western Ghats and Sri Lanka:** Includes entire Western Ghats (and Sri Lanka). It is sometimes called the great escarpment of India.

**NOTE:** Except Himalaya Hotspot, other biodiversity hotspots in India have been declared as the hottest hotspot.



Conservation International (conservation.org) defines 35 biodiversity hotspots — extraordinary places that harbor vast numbers of plant and animal species found nowhere else. All are heavily threatened by habitat loss and degradation, making their conservation crucial to protecting nature for the benefit of all life on Earth.

## Biodiversity Hope Spots

- Hope Spot are special places that are critical to the health of the ocean.
- Dr. Sylvia Earle** introduced the concept of Hope Spot because a very less number i.e. only 6% of the ocean is protected while comparing with the land which is 12% protected.
- Hope Spot Network** is a **joint initiative of Mission Blue and International Union Of Conservation of Nature (IUCN)**.
- The Andaman and Nicobar and the Lakshadweep islands** have been designated as '**Hope Spots**' by the **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in 2013**. The two islands are the first spots in India to be named hope spots and part of 31 new spots across the world in addition to the existing 19 hope spots.

## Biosphere Reserves

- The first biosphere reserve of the world was established in 1979**. There are 701 Biosphere reserves across 124 countries in the world which also include 21 trans-boundary sites.
- The **largest Biosphere reserve in India is the Gulf of Mannar** and the **smallest Biosphere Reserve in India is Panna in Madhya Pradesh**.
- The **first Biosphere Reserve in India is the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve** that is a part of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Kerala.

**NOTE:** The Bold Biosphere Reserves have been included in UNESCO's MAB List.

S. No	Year	Name	State	MAB List	Type	Key Features
1	1986	<b>Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve</b>	Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Karnataka	<b>2000</b>	Western Ghats	<p><b>Key Species:</b> NilgiriTahr, Lion-Tailed Macaque</p> <p><b>National Parks:</b> Mukurthi National Park, Bandipur National Park, Nagarhole National Park, Silent Valley National Park</p> <p><b>Wildlife Sanctuary:</b> Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary, Wayanad Wildlife sanctuary</p>
2	1988	<b>Nokrek</b>	Meghalaya	<b>2009</b>	East Himalayas	<p><b>Key Species:</b> Asian Elephants and Red Panda</p>

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3	1988	<b>Nanda Devi</b>	Uttarakhand	2004	Western Himalayas	<b>Key Species:</b> Nilgiri Tahr, Snow leopard, Himalayan Black Bear, and bharal/ blue sheep. Drained by Rishi Ganga
4	1989	<b>Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve</b>	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2013	Islands	<b>Key Species:</b> Saltwater Crocodile <b>National Parks:</b> Cambell Bay National park, Galathea National Park
5	1989	<b>Gulf of Mannar</b>	Tamil Nadu	2001	Coasts	<b>Key Species:</b> Dugong or Sea Cow The estuaries of <b>Thamirabarani River</b> of south India
6	1989	<b>Sundarbans</b>	West Bengal	2001	Gangetic Delta	<b>Key Species:</b> Royal Bengal Tiger It is the largest single block of tidal halophytic mangrove forest in the world To the east it is bordered by the Baleswar River
7	1989	Manas	Assam		East Himalayas	<b>Key Species:</b> Golden Langur, Red Panda, Bengal Florican, Pygmy Hog Manas River
8	1994	<b>Simlipal</b>	<b>Odisha</b>	2009	Deccan Peninsula	<b>Key Species:</b> Gaurs, Royal Bengal Tiger, Wild elephant Waterfalls like Joranda and Barehipani Santhal tribal settlements, Meghasani, the highest peak in the national park
9	1997	Dibru-Saikhowa	Assam		East Himalayas	<b>Key Species:</b> Golden Langur <b>Rivers:</b> Brahmaputra River; Lohit River; Dibru River
10	1998	Dihang-Dibang	Arunachal Pradesh		Eastern Himalaya	<b>Key Species:</b> Red Panda, Asiatic Black Bear <b>National Parks:</b> Mouling National Park <b>Wildlife Sanctuary:</b> Dibang Wildlife Sanctuary

11	1999	<b>Pachmarhi Biosphere Reserve</b>	Madhya Pradesh	<b>2009</b>	Semi-Arid	<b>Key Species:</b> Giant Squirrel, Flying Squirrel, Chinkara, Nilgai, Wild Dogs Satpura National Park, Bori Sanctuary, Pachmarhi Sanctuary
12	2000	<b>Khangchendzonga</b>	Sikkim	2018	<b>East Himalayas</b>	<b>Key Species:</b> Snow Leopard, Red Panda, Sloth Bear, Rusell's Viper There are many glaciers in the park famous one is Zemu Glacier
13	2001	Agasthyamalai Biosphere Reserve	Kerala, Tamil Nadu	2016	Western Ghats	<b>Key Species:</b> NilgiriTahr, Elephants, Lion Tailed Macaques <b>Wildlife Sanctuary:</b> Kalakkad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve (TN), Neyyar Wildlife Sanctuary Peppara Wildlife Sanctuary, Shenduruny Wildlife Sanctuary.
14	2005	<b>Achanakamar - Amarkantak</b>	Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh	<b>2012</b>	Maikala Hills	<b>Key Species:</b> Chital, Wild Bear, Leopard, Tiger Panthera, striped Hyaena. <b>Rivers:</b> The Narmada, the Johilla and the Son River
15	2008	Great Rann of Kutch	Gujarat		Desert	<b>Key Species:</b> Indian Wild Ass <b>Rivers:</b> Luni River drains into it <b>Wildlife Sanctuary:</b> Indian Wild Ass Sanctuary, Kutch Desert Wildlife Sanctuary, Narayan Sarovar Sanctuary, Kutch Bustard Sanctuary Banni Grasslands Reserve and Chari-Dhand Wetland Conservation Reserve
16	2009	Cold Desert	Himachal Pradesh		Western Himalayas	<b>Key Species:</b> Snow Leopard <b>National Park:</b> Pin Valley National Park <b>Wildlife Sanctuary:</b> Kibber Wildlife Sanctuary; Sarchu Wildlife Sanctuary

17	2010	Seshachalam Hills	Andhra Pradesh		Eastern Ghats	<b>Key Species:</b> Red Sanders and Slender Loris.
18	2011	Panna	Madhya Pradesh		Ken River	<b>Key Species:</b> Tiger, Chital, Chinkara, Sambhar and Sloth bear <b>River:</b> Ken River passes through it



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## Tiger Reserves

- Project Tiger was launched by the Government of India in the year 1973 to save the endangered species of tiger in the country. Starting from nine (9) reserves in 1973-2016 the number is grown up to fifty one (51).
- Recently Srivilliputhur Meghamalai Tiger Reserve located in the Nilgiris District of Tamil Nadu state at the tri-junction of three states, viz, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu was declared the 51<sup>st</sup> tiger reserve of India.

Sl. No.	Name of Tiger Reserve	State
1	Nagarjunsagar Srisaillam (part)*	Andhra Pradesh
2	Namdapha	Arunachal Pradesh
3	Kamlang Tiger Reserve	Arunachal Pradesh
4	Pakke	Arunachal Pradesh
5	Manas	Assam
6	Nameri	Assam
7	Orang Tiger Reserve	Assam
8	Kaziranga	Assam
9	Valmiki	Bihar
10	Udanti-Sitanadi	Chattisgarh
11	Achanakmar	Chattisgarh
12	Indravati	Chhattisgarh
13	Palamau	Jharkhand
14	Bandipur	Karnataka
15	Bhadra	Karnataka

Sl. No.	Name of Tiger Reserve	State
16	Dandeli-Anshi	Karnataka
17	Nagarahole	Karnataka
18	Biligiri Ranganatha Temple	Karnataka
19	Periyar	Kerala
20	Parambikulam	Kerala
21	Kanha	Madhya Pradesh
22	Pench	Madhya Pradesh
23	Bandhavgarh	Madhya Pradesh
24	Panna	Madhya Pradesh
25	Satpura	Madhya Pradesh
26	Sanjay-Dubri	Madhya Pradesh
27	Melghat	Maharashtra
28	Tadoba-Andhari	Maharashtra
29	Pench	Maharashtra

Sl. No.	Name of Tiger Reserve	State
30	Sahyadri	Maharashtra
31	Nawegaon-Nagzira	Maharashtra
32	Bor	Maharashtra
33	Dampa	Mizoram
34	Similipal	Odisha
35	Satkosia	Odisha
36	Ranthambore	Rajasthan
37	Sariska	Rajasthan
38	Mukandra Hills	Rajasthan
39	Kalakad-Mundanthurai	Tamil Nadu
40	Anamalai	Tamil Nadu
41	Mudumalai	Tamil Nadu

Sl. No.	Name of Tiger Reserve	State
42	Sathyamangalam	Tamil Nadu
43	Kawal	Telangana
44	Amrabad	Telangana
45	Dudhwa	Uttar Pradesh
46	Pilibhit	Uttar Pradesh
47	Amangarh (buffer of Corbett TR)	Uttar Pradesh
	Corbett	Uttarakhand
48	Rajaji TR	Uttarakhand
49	Sunderbans	West Bengal
50	Buxa	West Bengal
51	Srivilliputhur Meghamalai	Tamil Nadu

## About Srivilliputhur Meghamalai Tiger Reserve

- Approval for setting up the reserve as given by NTCA (National tiger conservation authority) under Wildlife protection act 1972.
- It is the fifth tiger reserve in Tamil Nadu and has been created after combining Grizzled Giant Squirrel Sanctuary and Megamalai Wildlife Sanctuary.
- With the creation of Srivilliputhur Meghamalai Tiger Reserve protection of river Vaigai and its catchment areas is expected to get a boost and also help in sustenance of population in southern districts
- The uninhabited and undisturbed habitats of the Srivilliputhur regions, will also could provide excellent buffering grounds to the tigers of Periyar Tiger Reserve and also an excellent genetic exchange grounds for the tigers of Anamalai region.
- Meghamalai, has a lot of cardamom hills, large population of ungulates (hoofed mammals), spotted deers, Indian gaurs, wild boars and other carnivores. Srivilliputhur, on the other hand, hosts grizzled giant squirrels, flying squirrels, leopards, Nilgiri tahrs, jungle cats, Sambars, elephants and many species of birds, including the lion-tailed macaque. **(See map on next page)**



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