

# Bhutan keen to join hands with India

## Save Tiger

**BIJAY SANKAR BORA**  
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The authorities of the Royal Manas wildlife area of Bhutan bordering the Manas National Park and Tiger Reserve in Assam has evinced interest for trans-boundary conservation of tiger, thanks to a unique web-based geographical information system (GIS) software called "MANTRIS" developed by Aaranyak, a prominent scientific and industrial research organisation here.

MANTRIS - Manas Tiger Reserve Information System - is basically GIS software that reveals information about the Manas Tiger Reserve at click of the mouse. MANTRIS is the first-of-its-kind information software that will be of immense help for park managers and other stakeholders. It is all set to revolutionise tiger conservation efforts. It can be the basic platform for habitat linkages within the Manas Tiger Reserve and other key habitats of the Bhutan Biological Conservation Complex as well as the North Bank Landscape.

Royal Manas Park manager, Tenzing Wangchuk, who was present while Aaranyak dedicated MANTRIS for the Manas Tiger Reserve a couple of days back, said such GIS-based software could be of immense help for trans-boundary wildlife conservation efforts between Bhutan and Assam as animals' movements were not

## Tiger Mortality 2010

Environment Minister Jairam Ramesh has sought a report from the Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister regarding the death of a tigress in Bandhavgarh Reserve

Date	Location	State
Jan 5	Phulei, Dhikala, Corbett Tiger Reserve	Uttarakhand
Jan 6	North Kheri Forest Division	Uttar Pradesh
Jan 11	Gujadi, Dhikala, Corbett Tiger Reserve	Uttarakhand
Jan 28	Pench National Park	Madhya Pradesh
Feb 14	Eastern Range, Kaziranga Tiger Reserve	Assam
Feb 18	Eastern Range, Kaziranga Tiger Reserve	Assam
Feb 21	Gundlupet Kollegal Forest, Bandipur	Karnataka
Mar 7	Ranthambore National Park	Rajasthan
Mar 7	Ranthambore National Park	Rajasthan
Mar 7	Wayanad	Kerala
Mar 11	Madanpur Range, Valmiki Tiger Reserve	Bihar
Mar 15	Tarai West, Ramnagar	Uttarakhand
Mar 27	Bandipur Tiger Reserve	Karnataka
Apr 7	Chandrapur	Maharashtra
Apr 20	Kanha Tiger Reserve	Madhya Pradesh
Apr 28	Bandipur	Karnataka
May 19	Tala Range, Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve	Madhya Pradesh

Source: Ministry of Environment and Forests / Wikipedia



According to WWF, there are about **2,100** Royal Bengal tigers alive in **1,411** India (3642 in 1990)

80 National Parks  
441 Wildlife Sanctuaries  
7 National Parks with restricted zones for tigers



**Mortality**  
2010 **17**  
2009 **66**

**Seizure of Tiger body parts**  
2010 **6**  
2009 **29**

Panna National Park  
Manas Tiger Reserve  
Kanha Tiger Reserve  
Sariska National Park  
Bandhavgarh Park  
Ranthambore Tiger Reserve  
Sundarban National Park

GRAPHICS

Manager of the Royal Manas Park, Bhutan, said Manas Tiger Reserve Information System (MANTRIS), a GIS-based software, could be of immense help for trans-boundary wildlife conservation efforts between both countries, as animals' movements were not bounded by geographical boundaries. MANTRIS reveals information about the Manas Tiger Reserve at click of the mouse and is the first-of-its-kind information software that will be of immense help for park managers and other stakeholders. It is all set to revolutionise tiger conservation efforts

bounded by geographical boundaries.

"MANTRIS contains detail information about the much celebrated Manas Tiger Reserve and will be of much help to forest officials, park managers. It is designed for the entire Manas Tiger Reserve area that extends from the Sankosh river in the west to Dhansiri river in the east along the India-Bhutan border. The Manas

Tiger Reserve comprises of 18 ranges covering a total area of over 2,800 sq km," said Bibhuti P Lahkar of Aaranyak and team leader of the project.

MANTRIS contains detail information on almost all aspects of the picturesque tiger reserve, including administrative centres, forest boundary, land use pattern, drainage, forest villages, NGO locations, roads

network, ride line, elephant points, golden langur points, digital elevation model (topographic model) of tiger reserve.

The whole project was financially supported by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund that focuses on conservation of bio-diversity hotspots. MANTRIS has been developed after two years of extensive fieldwork and research.