

## Status of Tigers in Kaziranga, 2024

As of a report released on International Tiger Day in July 2025, the Kaziranga Tiger Reserve has the third-highest tiger density in the world, with 18.65 tigers per 100 square kilometers. The population assessment was the first of its kind to include the reserve's full landscape.

### Key findings from the "Status of Tigers in Kaziranga, 2024" report include:

- **Total tigers:** The total number of tigers reached 148, a significant increase from the 104 recorded in 2022.
- **Ranking:** Kaziranga's tiger density ranks it third globally, trailing only the Bandipur and Corbett tiger reserves.
- **Population breakdown:** The survey identified 83 females, 55 males, and 10 tigers of undetermined sex.
- **Survey method:** The population was assessed between December 2023 and April 2024 using a scientifically rigorous method that deployed 293 camera traps. The process yielded over 4,000 tiger images and covered an area of 1,307.49 square kilometers.

### The successful conservation outcomes were attributed to several key initiatives:

- **First-time sampling:** The inclusion of the Biswanath Wildlife Division in the survey for the first time accounted for 27 newly recorded tigers.
- **Habitat expansion:** The reserve's area was expanded by 200 square kilometers in recent years. This includes reclaiming 12.82 square kilometers of encroachment-free land, which has increased habitat and forest connectivity.
- **Improved protection:** Enhanced anti-poaching measures, including advanced technology such as drones, infrared cameras, and the M-STrIPES monitoring system, have led to better tracking and protection of tigers.
- **Community involvement:** Local communities have been engaged in conservation programs, which helps foster a shared commitment to protecting wildlife.

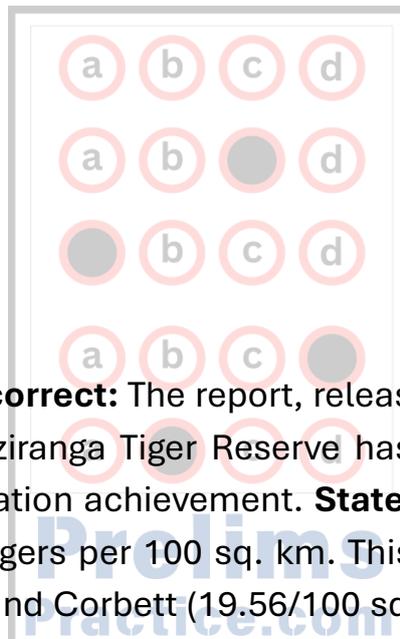
## Practice Questions:

### 1. Consider the following statements regarding the 'Status of Tigers in Kaziranga 2024' report released in July 2025:

- I. Kaziranga Tiger Reserve (KTR) now has the third-highest tiger density in the world
- II. The report stated a tiger density of 18.65 tigers per 100 square kilometers in the reserve, trailing only after Bandipur and Corbett Tiger Reserves in India
- III. The recent assessment was the first of its kind to include the reserve's full landscape, including the Biswanath Wildlife Division

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None



**Answer: c**

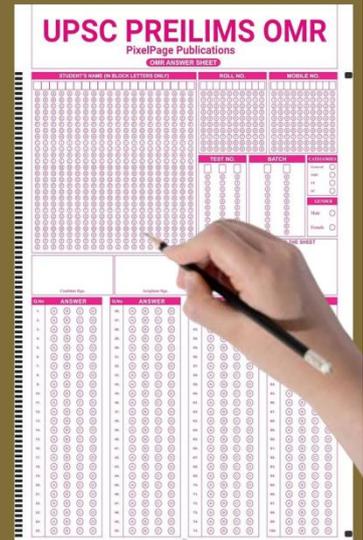
**Explanation: Statement I is correct:** The report, released on International Tiger Day in July 2025, confirmed that Kaziranga Tiger Reserve has the third-highest tiger density globally, a significant conservation achievement. **Statement II is correct:** The specific density recorded was 18.65 tigers per 100 sq. km. This density places it third, behind Bandipur (19.83/100 sq. km) and Corbett (19.56/100 sq. km). **Statement III is correct:** A key reason for the increase in the total tiger count (from 104 in 2022 to 148 in 2024) was the first-time inclusion of the entire Kaziranga landscape in the sampling, specifically incorporating new areas like the Biswanath Wildlife Division. The survey used the sophisticated Spatially Explicit Capture-Recapture (SECR) method following National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) and Wildlife Institute of India (WII) protocols.

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