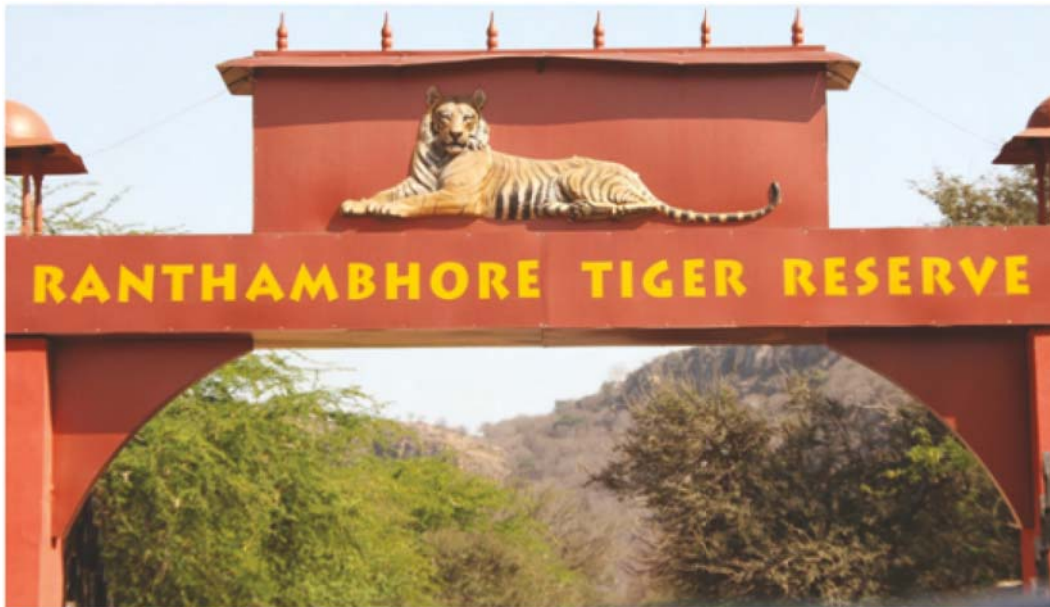
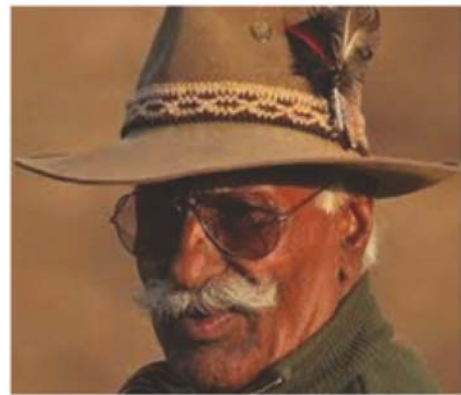


- Which is the national animal of India?
- Where do you find this animal in Rajasthan?
- What measures have been taken for ensuring the safety of this animal?



Read on to find out more.....

Independent India witnessed a grave situation as far as conservation of **flora** and **fauna** is concerned. Rapid **poaching** and deforestation have endangered many species. Keeping these concerns in mind, several conservational efforts at the central and state level were initiated. One such successful conservation effort is 'Project Tiger', aimed at protecting tigers, and a man who got much name and fame through the project was Fateh Singh Rathore. Born in a small village named Choradia of the Jodhpur district on the 10th of



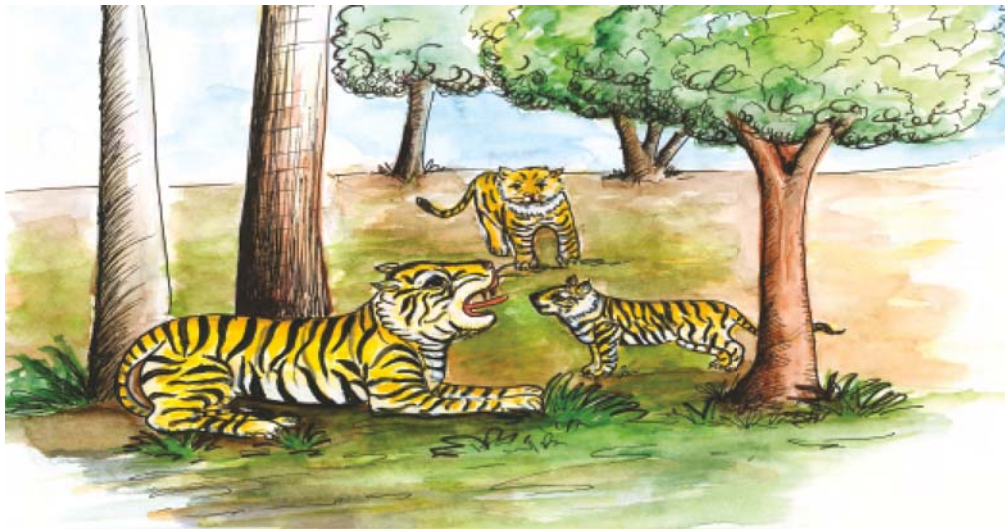
August 1938, he completed his school in Jodhpur. He finished his graduation from Rajputana University in 1960. From the very beginning, he was not interested in studies and preferred to take part in dramas and other co-curricular activities.

Rathore joined the Indian Forest Service in 1960 as a park ranger. In 1969 he was sent to the Wildlife Institute of India, as part of the first batch of forest officers to be trained. During the training, Rathore showed a great liking for field work and his guru S.R. Choudhary was quick to spot his talent. As a result, he did well in his training.



But the real change in Rathore's life came in 1973 when Project Tiger was launched. Hunting of tigers was banned and nine reserves across the country were chosen under the project. Ranthambore was one such reserve. Fateh Singh was sent as Assistant Field Director there. He went about restoring the 'Padam Talao,' 'Raj Bagh' and 'Malik Talao,' the three main water spots for the wild animals. At that time 16 villages existed within the reserve. Rathore knew that if the tigers were to flourish, these villages must be relocated. Here he faced many difficulties. With the help of a school teacher, he managed to convince most of the villagers to move to Kailashpuri, a newly established village. But things were not always in his favour. In August 1981 Rathore was attacked by a group of villagers who resented for not allowing them to graze their cattle. He

was beaten up and left for dead with several fractures and a head injury. It took months for Rathore to recover. As soon as he recovered, Rathore went back to his work with a new zeal. Slowly his efforts started to bear fruit. Vegetation started regenerating and soon pugmarks of tigers could be seen. Ranthambore was alive and kicking!



For his efforts in tiger conservation, Rathore was awarded several times. In 1983 he got the International PARK MERIT AWARD for bravery in conservation followed by the 'Wildlife Fund Lifetime Achievement' Award in 2011. But he





considered the conferring of the post, 'Honorary Wildlife Warden of Ranthambore National Park.'

Rathore and his efforts were untimely cut when he breathed his last on 1st March 2011 because of lung cancer. But his legacy lives on and 'Ranthambore National Park' continues to flourish. In his words, "The forest and all its creatures were the creation of the God. No man had a right to disturb that divine creation. The forest must be left to grow back."

### Glossary

flora	:	refers to plants
fauna	:	refers to animals
poaching	:	illegally catching animals, birds, fishes, etc.
flourish	:	developing quickly and strongly
zeal	:	enthusiasm
endangered	:	harmed or destroyed completely.

### Activity I

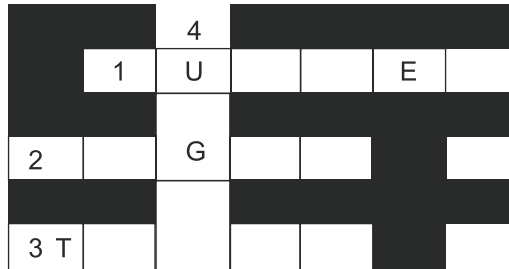
#### 1. Answer the following questions :

- In the text, it is stated by the author, Rathore was 'left for dead.' What does this phrase mean?
- Ranthambore was 'alive and kicking!' What does this phrase mean?
- What did Rathore mean when he said, "The forest and all its creatures were the creation of the God. No man had a right to disturb that divine creation."?
- The text mentions, 'Soon pugmarks of tigers could be seen.' What is the importance of pugmarks in conservation efforts?
- The establishment of National Parks often leads to relocation of men and livelihood. How big is the problem? Suggest suitable measures for dealing with this.
- How do you think, wild animals in 'National Parks' and 'Reserves' are counted? Ask your teacher.

## Activity II

### 1. Let's enrich our word store.

Crossword—



#### Clues Across

1. There are lovely rose .....on the hills (6 letters).
2. The ..... is the largest animal of the cat species (5 letters).
3. We should stop cutting .....and save our planet (5 letters).

#### Clues Down

4. Wild animals live in .....( 6 letters).

### 2. There are a few words with different meanings and different spellings but are pronounced in the same manner.

For example :-wait / weight

Now use appropriate words from bracket to fill in the blanks below.

(piece / peace, meat / meet, knew / new, sun / son)

- i. Lions eat raw .....
- ii. The employer will .....his employees in the evening.
- iii. When it rains, the .....hides behind the clouds.
- iv. Raju's parents had only one.....
- v. I want a .....tooth brush.
- vi. The police .....who had stolen the money.
- vii. When there is ....., a country prospers.
- viii. I would like a .....of delicious cake.

### Activity III

#### 1. Compare these two sentences :-

The hunter killed the tiger.

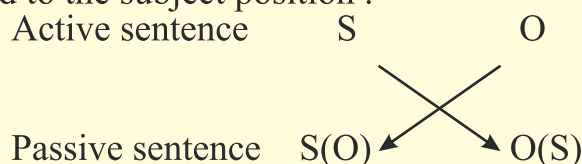
The tiger was killed by the hunter.

Both the sentences mean the same thing. Then what is the difference between them?

In sentence 1 the subject (hunter) is shown as 'doing' something. This is an 'Active voice'. In sentence 2 the subject (tiger) is shown as 'suffering' or 'receiving' an action. This sentence is in the 'Passive voice'.

**While transforming/ changing active sentence into passive one the main changes include :-**

- The subject is moved to the end and 'by' is added before it.
- The recipient of the action (the object of the verb) is moved to the subject position .



- The main verb form is changed into the III form.
- In simple present and simple past the helping verb 'be' (is, am, are, was, were) is used.
- In present perfect and past perfect 'been' is used after the helping verbs 'has', 'have', 'had'.

**Change the following sentences into passive voice sentences.**

- The teacher checks our exercise.  
Our exercise.....
- My grandmother told us a good story.  
A good story .....
- Ashok has written this letter.  
This letter.....
- The boys had eaten all the cakes before the party began.  
All the cakes .....

**Activity IV**

1. Prepare a poster on what one should do and one should not do inside a National Park or Reserve.

**Activity V**

1. Divide the class into two groups, discuss and write down why conservation efforts need to be encouraged. What can students do to aid conservation efforts?
2. Consult the nearest wildlife office and find out how many National Parks, Reserves and Sanctuaries there are in India. Also enlist which animals are being protected there. What is the difference between National Parks, Reserves and Sanctuaries?

**Activity VI**

Read and enjoy the poem given below.

**Tigers Forever**

May there always be tigers.  
 In the jungles and tall grass  
 May the tiger's roar be heard,  
 May his thunder  
 Be known in the land.  
 At the forest pool, by moonlight  
 May he drink and raise his head  
 Scenting the night wind.  
 May he crouch low in the grass  
 When the herdsmen pass,  
 And slumber in dark caverns  
 When the sun is high.  
 May there always be tigers.  
 But not so many, that one of them  
 Might be tempted to come into my room  
 In search of a meal!



— Ruskin Bond

*Save the trees, save the earth,  
 we are the guardian of the nature's birth.*