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Corbett Tiger Reserve: Uttarakhand

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Why in News

Recently, the Delhi High Court has asked the **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)** to consider as representation a petition to **stop the alleged illegal construction** of bridges and walls within tiger breeding habitat of the **Corbett Tiger Reserve**.

National Tiger Conservation Authority

- It is a **statutory body** under the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.
- It was **established in 2005** following the **recommendations of the Tiger Task Force**.
- It was **constituted under enabling provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**, as amended in 2006, for strengthening tiger conservation, as per powers and functions assigned to it.

Key Points

- **About:**
 - It is located in Nainital district of Uttarakhand. The **Project Tiger** was launched in 1973 in **Corbett National Park** (first National Park of India), which is **part of Corbett Tiger Reserve**.
 - The national park was **established in 1936 as Hailey National Park** to protect the endangered Bengal tiger.
 - It is **named after Jim Corbett** who played a key role in its establishment.
 - The **core area forms the Corbett National Park** while the buffer contains reserve forests as well as the **Sonanadi Wildlife Sanctuary**.
 - The entire area of the reserve is mountainous and **falls in the Shivalik and Outer Himalaya geological provinces**.
 - **Ramganga, Sonanadi, Mandal, Palain and Kosi** are the major rivers flowing through the Reserve.

- **Flora:**

According to the **botanical survey of India**, Corbett has **600 species of plants - trees, shrubs, ferns, grass, climbers, herbs and bamboos**. Sal, Khair and Sissoo are the most visible trees found in Corbett.

- **Fauna:**

Apart from tigers, Corbett also has leopards. Other mammals such as **jungle cats, barking deer, spotted deer, sambar deer, sloth** etc. are also found there.

- **Other Major Protected Areas of Uttarakhand:**

- **Nanda Devi National Park.**

- Valley of Flowers National Park.

Valley of Flowers National Park and Nanda Devi National Park together are a **UNESCO World Heritage Site.**

- **Rajaji National Park.**

- **Gangotri National Park.**

- Govind National Park.

National Parks & Sanctuaries of Uttarakhand



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