

Corbett Tiger Reserve: Uttarakhand

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. The Vision

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 <u>UNESCO World Heritage Site</u>.
- Raiaii National Park.
- Gangotri National Park.
- Govind National Park.



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