



# Rajasthan Recognizes Ramgarh Crater as India's 1st Geo-Heritage Site

## Why in News?

Recently, the Rajasthan government officially recognised the 3-km diameter **Ramgarh Crater at Baran district** formed **165 million years ago** due to a **meteor impact**, as the **country's first [Geo-Heritage Site](#)**.

## Key Points

- Ramgarh Crater is significant for its ecosystem services, biodiversity, cultural, and heritage value for the local communities and society.
  - This significance is reflected by its status as a declared Conservation Reserve, namely **[Ramgarh Conservation Reserve](#)**, under the **[Wildlife \(Protection\) Act, 1972](#)**.
- According to the **State Wetland Authority, Pushkar Talab** located inside the crater is a source of both saline and alkaline water, adding to the beauty and diversity of the area.
  - These lakes have been notified as wetlands under the **[Wetland \(Conservation & Management\) Rules, 2017](#)**.
- Ramgarh Crater exhibits an important interchange of human values within a cultural area, reflected in developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning, or landscape design.
  - **Bhand Deva Temple**, influenced by **Chandela dynasty** and their temples at Khajuraho, is an example of such interchange.
  - Its construction on a meteor impact crater adds to its uniqueness and significance.

## Ramgarh Crater



- It is a meteor impact crater of **3.5 kilometres diameter** in **Kota plateau** of **[Vindhya range](#)** located **adjacent to Ramgarh village in Baran district** in Rajasthan.

- It is **formally accepted as the third crater in India**, its diameter size would be between the **two already confirmed craters in India - Dhala in Madhya Pradesh** with 14 km diameter and **Lonar in Buldhana district of Maharashtra** with 1.8 km diameter.

## **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**

- It provides a **legal framework for the protection of various species of wild animals and plants**, management of their habitats, regulation, and control of trade in wild animals, plants, and products made from them.
- The act also lists schedules of plants and animals that are afforded varying degrees of protection and monitoring by the government.
- India's entry to the **CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora)** was made easier by the Wildlife Act.
- Earlier, **Jammu and Kashmir was not covered by the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972**. The Indian Wildlife Protection Act now applies to J&K as a result of the **reorganisation act**.

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