



Tiger Safari Banned in Jim Corbett | Uttarakhand | 08 Mar 2024

Why in News?

Recently, the Supreme Court reprimanded the Uttarakhand government for its involvement in the felling of trees and unauthorised construction activities within the [Jim Corbett National Park](#).

Key Points

- According to the Supreme Court a committee will look into whether **tiger safaris can be permitted in buffer or fringe areas of national parks** in the country.
- The apex court also directed the Centre to establish a **committee tasked with proposing measures to alleviate the environmental damage** caused and to seek **reimbursement from those accountable**.
- The Supreme Court pulled up the government over unprecedented felling of trees and environmental damage in the Tiger reserve. It has asked for a **status report on illegal construction, felling of trees** in Corbett within three months.
- Earlier in January, the Supreme Court had dismissed the [National Tiger Conservation Authority's \(NTCA\)](#) proposal to establish a tiger safari within national parks, emphasizing the need for an **"animal-centric" approach over a "tourism-centric" one**.
- The Court's stance underscores the importance of **prioritizing the welfare and conservation of wildlife within national parks**, reaffirming the principle of maintaining natural habitats for animals over tourist attractions.

Jim Corbett National Park

- It is located in the **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.
- Sprawling over **500 square kilometres**, CTR is home to 230 tigers and has the world's highest tiger density — at 14 tigers per hundred square kilometres.

National Tiger Conservation Authority's (NTCA)

- National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) 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.

