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## Landfill Waste Polluting Waterbodies in Aravalis | Haryana | 29 Jun 2024

### Why in News?

Garbage is being illegally dumped at waterbodies in [Aravalis](#). The Aravali land is protected under [Section 4 of the Punjab Land Preservation Act \(PLPA\) 1900](#), which makes the **forest department's approval mandatory to carry out any non-forest activities**.

### Key Points

- Waterbodies in the Aravalis served as a **source of water for the local [wildlife](#)**, and are now being polluted and filled with **spillover garbage** and **leachate** from the landfill.
- It is **crucial for the authorities to prioritise the [protection of the Aravali ecosystem](#)** and take **stringent action against those violating environmental laws**.

### Section 4 of the Punjab Land Preservation Act (PLPA), 1900

- Special orders under Section 4 of PLPA, 1900 are the **restrictive provisions issued by the state government** to prevent deforestation of a specified area that could lead to soil erosion.
- When the state government is satisfied that deforestation of a forest area forming part of a larger area is **likely to lead to [erosion of soil](#)**, the power under Section 4 can be exercised.
  - Therefore, the specific land which a special order under Section 4 of PLPA has been issued will have all the trappings of a forest governed by the [Forest Act, 1927](#).

### Aravalli

- The Aravallis of Northwestern India, one of the oldest [fold mountains](#) of the world, now form residual mountains with an elevation of 300 meter to 900 meter. They stretch for a distance of 800 km. from **Himmatnagar in Gujarat to Delhi, spanning Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, and Delhi, the 692 kilometre (km)**.
- The mountains are divided into two main ranges - the Sambhar Sirohi Range and the **Sambhar Khetri Range** in Rajasthan, where their extension is about 560 km.
- The hidden limb of the Aravallis that **extends from Delhi to Haridwar** creates a divide between the **drainage of rivers of the [Ganga](#) and the [Indus](#)**