



# Uttarakhand Renames Pawalgarh Conservation Reserve

## Why in News?

Ahead of the consecration of the Ram Lalla idol at the Ayodhya temple, the 5,800-hectare **Pawalgarh Conservation Reserve in Ramnagar forest division**, is renamed as **Sitabani Conservation Reserve**.

## Key Points

- According to the officials, there is an **ancient temple dedicated to Mother Sita and the Maharishi Valmiki Ashram inside the reserve**, where she is **said to have stayed with her sons Luv and Kush after she left Ayodhya**.
  - Both the structures are being maintained by **the [Archaeological Survey of India](#)**.

## Pawalgarh Conservation Reserve (PCR)

- It is **located in the Nainital District of the hill state of Uttarakhand**. It was designated as a Conservation Reserve in December, 2012.
- The total area of PCR is 58.25 sq. km which lies in the beautiful, vast and rich forests of Ramnagar Forest Division, Ramnagar.
- The **reserve is home to more than 33 species of mammals, 365 species of birds and more than 400 species of flora**.

## Note

- In 2021, Union minister of state for forest, during his visit to **[Corbett National Park](#)** had written in the visitor's book that the national park's name should be changed to Ramganga National Park after **he learnt from forest officials that Corbett had different names in the past, one being Ramganga**.
  - The reserve **came into existence in 1936** and was **named Hailey National Park after the first Lieutenant Governor of the United Provinces**.
  - It got notified as a reserve in December 2012.