



Jim Corbett National Park

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The [Supreme Court \(SC\) of India](#) stressed balancing [wildlife conservation](#) with local community needs, while addressing the issue of private buses operating through the **core and buffer zones** of [Jim Corbett National Park, Uttarakhand](#).

- The SC was hearing a petition challenging the Jim Corbett National **Park's 2020 decision** allowing private buses within the core area, which had been stayed since 2021.
 - **Section 38(O) of the [Wildlife Protection Act, 1972](#)** states that [tiger reserves](#) cannot be diverted for ecologically unsustainable uses.
 - If such diversion is necessary, the state of Uttarakhand must obtain approval from the [National Board for Wildlife](#) on the advice of the [National Tiger Conservation Authority](#).
 - The diversion of protected areas must adhere to strict guidelines to safeguard ecosystems from long-term harm.
- Jim Corbett National Park, located in **Nainital district, Uttarakhand**, is part of the **Corbett Tiger Reserve**.
 - It was established in 1936 as **Hailey National Park** to protect the **Bengal tiger**, it is the oldest national park in India and the **first area under the [Project Tiger initiative in 1973](#)**.
- The **core zone** is a **strictly protected area for natural resources**, while the **buffer zone surrounds it**, allowing for sustainable nature conservation alongside compatible human activities.

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