



Dhanauri Wetland

Why in News?

[The National Green Tribunal \(NGT\)](#) instructed **the Uttar Pradesh government** to submit the status of notifying the [Dhanauri water body](#) near [Jewar airport](#) as a [wetland](#) within four weeks.

Key Points

- **State Government's Stand:**
 - The Uttar Pradesh's counsel stated that **the government is in the process of notifying Dhanauri as a wetland.**
 - The NGT bench questioned the need for three months to complete the notification process when the site has already been identified for wetland status.
- **The Divisional Forest Officer (DFO):**
 - The DFO of Gautam Buddha Nagar informed the NGT through an affidavit that **the proposed Dhanauri wetland spans 112.89 hectares.**
 - The area **primarily includes privately owned land** located across the villages of Dhanauri Kalan, Thasrana, and Amipur Bangar in the Sadar tehsil of Gautam Buddha Nagar.
 - The DFO requested **three months to consult with landowners and obtain their consent** before proceeding with further action.
- **Wetland Notification and Ramsar Site Process:**
 - State governments **can notify lakes and water bodies as wetlands** for protection.
 - [Ramsar site](#) designation requires approval from the Central Government, based on recommendations by state governments.
 - Wetlands qualifying under ecological and biodiversity criteria are identified under **the international Ramsar Convention treaty of 1971**, which ensures special conservation measures.

Dhanauri Wetland

- **Location:**
 - Situated in **Greater Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar district, Uttar Pradesh.**
 - Lies close to the [Okhla Bird Sanctuary](#) and [Surajpur Wetland](#).
 - Positioned within the floodplains of the Yamuna Basin, about 15 km from the [River Yamuna](#).
- **Ecological Significance:**
 - Composed mainly of marshes, the wetland is an essential habitat for the vulnerable [Sarus Crane \(*Antigone antigone*\)](#).
 - Hosts a variety of bird species, including:
 - Common teal
 - Mallard
 - Northern pintail
 - Greylag geese
 - [Bar-headed geese](#)
 - [Woolly-necked stork](#)
 - Black-necked stork

- **Painted stork**
- Eurasian marsh harrier

▪ **Conservation Status:**

- Recognized as an **Important Bird Area (IBA)** by **BirdLife International**.

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