

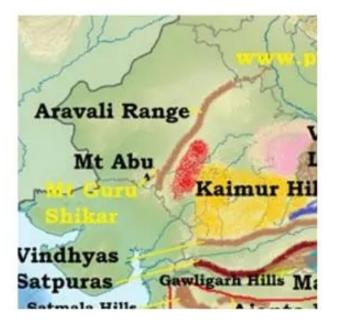
Aravali Safari Park Project

Source: TH

Haryana's proposed Aravali Safari Park, featuring wildlife enclosures, hotels, and restaurants, faces debate over its impact on ecology, groundwater, and wildlife conservation.

- About Aravali Safari Park Project: It is envisioned as the world's largest safari park (approx 10,000 acres) and aims to support eco-tourism and <u>compensatory afforestation</u>.
 - Inspired by UAE's Sharjah Park, it is planned for compensatory afforestation to mitigate the loss of 26,000 acres of tropical forests in <u>Great Nicobar</u>.
 - It will only be developed in areas where **forest density is less than 40%**.
 - Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 was amended in 2023 to bring it under the 'forest' activity, and allowing zoos to be built in forest areas.
- About Aravalis: It is the oldest fold mountain range in the world and runs diagonally (northeast to southwest) across Gujarat, Rajasthan, Delhi, and Haryana for about 690 km.
 - It plays a crucial role in preventing <u>desertification</u> eastwards and recharging groundwater.
 - The hidden limb of the Aravallis, extending from **Delhi to Haridwar**, separates the drainage of the **Ganga and Indus rivers**.
 - Its highest peak is Guru Shikhar on Mount Abu (Rajasthan) at 1,722 metres.





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PDF Refernece URL: https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/aravali-safari-park-project

