

WORLD Wildlife WEEK

2nd - 8th October 2022

Theme: “Recovering key species for ecosystem restoration”

Define wildlife:

Wildlife traditionally refers to undomesticated animal species, but has come to include all organisms that grow or live in wild in an area without being introduced by humans. Wildlife can be found in all ecosystem.

Brief history of the Wildlife Week:

- The first wildlife week was commemorated in 1957 in India.
- Wildlife day was first observed in 1955 but later in 1957, it was renamed as wildlife week.
- Indian Board of wildlife conceptualized wildlife week, which strives to spread awareness in order to preserve the wildlife.

Biological Hotspot:

India is a biological hotspot. It supports number of animal species. It is a home to more than 7 percent of world's biodiversity. Fauna wealth is also incredibly diverse.

Aims of Wildlife Week:

- It aims to protect and preserve India's flora and fauna and implement solutions to conserve them.
- It is a long-term goal to safeguard the lives of the endangered and threatened species.

Importance of Wildlife Week:

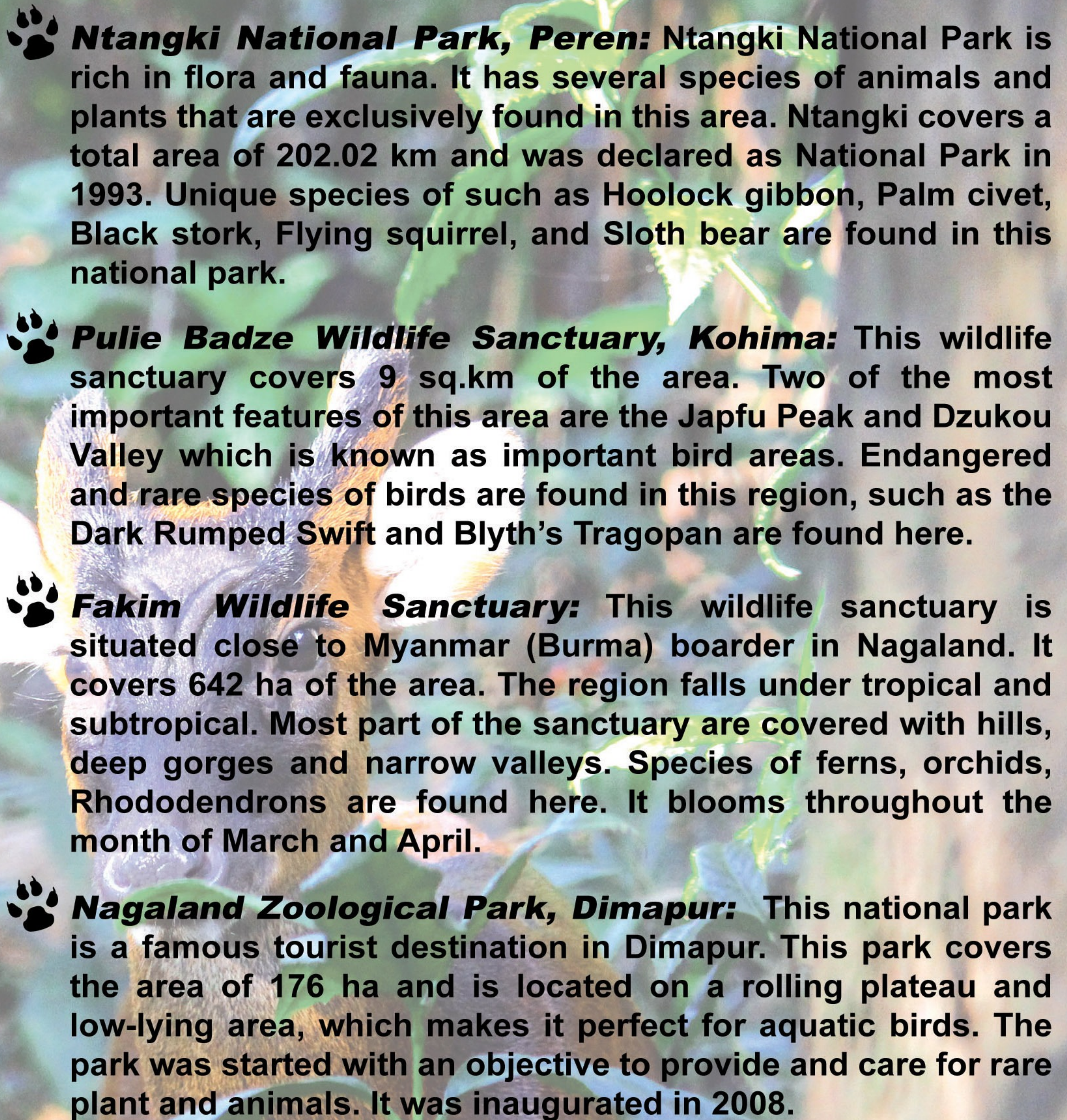




- Over 8,400 species of wild fauna and flora are critically endangered, while close to 30,000 more are understood to be endangered and vulnerable.
- Based on these estimates, it can be said that over a million species are threatened with extinction.
- In 2022, world wildlife day will therefore drive the debate towards the imperative need to reverse the fate of the most critically endangered species, to support the restoration of their habitats and ecosystem.
- India's flora and fauna are highly diversified and constitute more than seven percent of the world's biodiversity.
- India accounts for 7.4 per cent of the world's fauna.
- Any damage done to wildlife over a prolonged period of time endangers the entire ecosystem.

Some Wildlife Sanctuaries in India:

- Jim Corbett National Park, Uttarakhand.
- Ranthambore National Park, Rajasthan.
- Khangchendzonga National Park, Sikkim.
- Bandipur National Park, Karnataka.
- Nokrek National Park, Meghalaya.
- Kaziranga National Park, Assam.
- Nanda Devi National Park, Uttarakhand.

“Conserving and protecting wildlife and their habitats not only saves animals and beautiful natural spaces to enjoy but it saves our future”

National Parks in Nagaland:

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-  **Ntangki National Park, Peren:** Ntangki National Park is rich in flora and fauna. It has several species of animals and plants that are exclusively found in this area. Ntangki covers a total area of 202.02 km and was declared as National Park in 1993. Unique species of such as Hoolock gibbon, Palm civet, Black stork, Flying squirrel, and Sloth bear are found in this national park.
 -  **Pulie Badze Wildlife Sanctuary, Kohima:** This wildlife sanctuary covers 9 sq.km of the area. Two of the most important features of this area are the Japfu Peak and Dzukou Valley which is known as important bird areas. Endangered and rare species of birds are found in this region, such as the Dark Rumped Swift and Blyth's Tragopan are found here.
 -  **Fakim Wildlife Sanctuary:** This wildlife sanctuary is situated close to Myanmar (Burma) boarder in Nagaland. It covers 642 ha of the area. The region falls under tropical and subtropical. Most part of the sanctuary are covered with hills, deep gorges and narrow valleys. Species of ferns, orchids, Rhododendrons are found here. It blooms throughout the month of March and April.
 -  **Nagaland Zoological Park, Dimapur:** This national park is a famous tourist destination in Dimapur. This park covers the area of 176 ha and is located on a rolling plateau and low-lying area, which makes it perfect for aquatic birds. The park was started with an objective to provide and care for rare plant and animals. It was inaugurated in 2008.

Wildlife Protection Act:

- Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 is an Act of the Parliament of India enacted on 9th September, 1972.
- This Act provides for the protection of the country's wild animals, birds and plants in order to ensure environmental and ecological security.

- It extends to the whole of India, except the state of Jammu & Kashmir which has its own wildlife act.
- It has six schedules which give varying degrees of protection.
- Schedule I and part II of the schedule provide absolute protection- offence under these are prescribed the highest penalties.
- Species listed in schedule III and IV are also protected but the penalties are much lower.
- Schedule V includes the animals which may be hunted.
- The plants in schedule VI are prohibited from cultivation and planting.

Importance of Wildlife Protection Act, 1972:

- It prohibits hunting.
- It balances nature's elements and the preservation of food chains.
- This act helps in preservation of animals and plants from extinction.
- It is also important as it helps in prevention of droughts, new deserts, fires as well as flood.

Using time and resources:

- ☞ Plant a tree, by planting a tree it will help our environment to heal and help our earth to be a better place to live in.
- ☞ Find native plants to cultivate a garden to support bees, butterflies and birds.
- ☞ Seek out or create an awareness programme to create safe spaces for everyone to enjoy nature and wildlife.



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Nagaland Pollution Control Board
(State Nodal Agency, NGC Eco Club)

