

**Office of the Deputy Conservator of Forests
(Wildlife) National Chambal Sanctuary,
Sawai Madhopur**

Proposal No. FP/RJ/OTHERS/6717/2022

CONSERVATION VALUE OF THE AREA

Chambal is one of the few Indian rivers, which flow from south to north. Chambal River is perennial with its origin in Vindhyan Range near Mhow (Indore district) of Madhya Pradesh. A series of multi-purpose dams at Gandhi Sagar M.P. (a declared protected area), Ranapartap Sagar, Jawahar Sagar and Kota Barrage all in the state of Rajasthan have been erected in the upper reaches of Chambal River. Chambal River is the lifeline of the region and it is also important to mention that the region is also named after the River.

National Chambal Sanctuary is only example of an interstate Protected Area (PA) in the country where conservation of the critically endangered aquatic fauna has been focused at a large scale.

Chambal River originates in Vindhyan ranges in Indore district of MP, follows Rajasthan and UP in North eastern direction and join the Yamuna River in Etawa district of U.P. The river and Area on the both bank running about 700 km, have been declared as Wildlife Sanctuary by the three states in their respective territorial jurisdictions.

The Sanctuary was declared, as Wildlife Sanctuary vide state Government notification No. F. 11(12) rev. /Gr-08/78 Jaipur date 16-7-1983 under section 18 of WLPA.


The area of the Sanctuary is 625 Sq. km in Rajasthan State. Wetlands are generally rich in their floristic and faunal diversity which is often much higher than what it is in many other eco-system.

Bank of the river is occupied by ravine thorn forest a sub group of northern tropical thorn forests. The major tree species found in the area are *Anoggeisus pendula*, *Boswellia serrata*, *Acacia catechu*, *Acacia nilotica*, *Albizia lebbek* etc. The major aquatic vegetation consists of *Hydrilla verticillata*, *Vallisneria spiralis*, *Potamogeton spp.*, *Impertata cylindrical Spp.*, *Typha*, etc.

The Sanctuary is famous for Crocodile and Ghariyal, which were successfully reared in the past and released in the river Chambal. Crocodile from Zoos & Ghariyal from the Chambal Garden, Kota were also released in the Sanctuary. Chambal River is also famous for providing shelter to the highly endangered Gangatic Dolphins, Turtles and large varieties of birds.

Major Terrestrial fauna includes leopard, Jungal cat, Sloth Bear, Hyena, Jackal, Fox, Wolf, Chinkara, Blue Bull, Wild Bore, Langore, Peafowls, Saras Crane, Vulture, Hares, Owls etc. Important aquatic fauna species includes Ghariyal, Magger, Dolphin, Fres water Otter, Turtle etc.

Nearly 154 species of birds includes 37 Migrants and 117 residents are found in NCS. Brahminy Duck is the most common bird (>90%). Other common species includes Coot, Red crested Pochard, Pintail etc.


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