



Raimona National Park: An Overview

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Context:

Recently, three poachers were arrested from **Raimona National Park** in **Kokrajhar**, Assam, by personnel from the **Assam Forest Department** and **Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)**. This highlights ongoing conservation challenges in the park.

Location and Status

- **Location:** Raimona National Park is situated in **Kokrajhar district**, within the **Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR)**, Assam, along the **Indo-Bhutan border**.
- **National Park Status:** It was officially declared a **national park** on **June 5, 2021**.

Trans-boundary Conservation Landscape

- Raimona shares contiguous forest patches with:
- **Phibsoo Wildlife Sanctuary** (Bhutan)
- **Jigme Singye Wangchuck National Park** (Bhutan)
- This forms a conservation landscape spanning over **2,400 square kilometers** across India and Bhutan.

Geographical Features

- **Rivers:**
- **Sonkosh River** lies to the **west** of the park.
- **Saralbhanga River** flows to the **east**.
- **Vegetation:** The park features **12 distinct forest types**, including:
- **Moist sal forests**
- **Sub-Himalayan high alluvial semi-evergreen forests**
- **Savannah forests**
- **Moist-mixed deciduous forests**
- **Khoir-sisoo forests**.

Flora and Fauna

- **Flora:** The park is rich in **orchid species**, **tropical rainforest vegetation**, and **riverine grasslands**.
- **Fauna:** Raimona is known for its **rich biodiversity**, including:
- **Endemic golden langur** (the mascot of Bodoland)
- **Elephants**
- **Bengal tigers**
- **Wild bison**
- **White-spotted deer**
- **Clouded leopards**
- **Wild buffalo**.

Conservation Efforts

The recent arrests of poachers highlight the ongoing efforts by park authorities to protect the park's unique flora and fauna from illegal activities. The park's trans-boundary location makes it crucial for broader regional conservation initiatives with Bhutan.