

Two new national parks in Assam

June 10, 2021

In news- Assam has got its **6th and 7th** National parks- **Dehing Patkai wildlife sanctuary and Raimona reserve forest.**

About the new parks-

- Assam till now had five national parks – **Kaziranga, Nameri, Orang, Manas and Dibru-Saikhowa.**
- The new National parks would help promote conservation efforts and aid tourism and agriculture sectors as well.
- Assam now is the state with the **third highest number of national parks (7) in the country, after Madhya Pradesh's 11 and Andaman and Nicobar's 9.**
- The **Dehing Patkai wildlife sanctuary** (notified in 2004) is **located inside the larger Dehing Patkai Elephant Reserve**, which spreads across Dibrugarh, Tinsukia and Sivasagar districts of Upper Assam.
- It is believed to be the last remaining contiguous patch of lowland rainforest area in Assam.
- It is known for its elephant population, and 47 mammal species, 47 reptile species and 310 butterfly species.
- It is said to have the **highest concentration of the rare endangered White Winged Wood Duck.**
- The decision to upgrade it to a national park was announced by the Assam government in July 2020, just months after the **illegal coal mining controversy** in the park.
- The **Raimona national park** is **surrounded by the Phipsoo Wildlife Sanctuary in Bhutan to its north, the Buxa Tiger Reserve in West Bengal to its west and the Manas National Park to its east.**
- The area is home to the golden langurs, elephants,

tiger, clouded leopard, several species of **orchids**.