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## Dumping Inert Waste in Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary

Notes for civil services preparation



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## *Dumping Inert Waste in Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary*

The Supreme Court-mandated **Ridge Management Board** has decided to constitute an expert committee to look into the proposal of dumping **inert (non-reactive) waste** in the mines of **Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary** (Delhi).

### **Key Points**

- **Inert Waste:**

- Inert waste is waste which is **neither biologically nor chemically reactive** and is waste which **will not decompose** or decompose very
- Inert waste includes, but is not limited to: **construction and demolition material** such as metal, wood, bricks, masonry and cement concrete; **asphalt concrete; metal; tree branches**; bottom **ash from coal fired boilers**; and waste **coal fines** from air pollution control. These wastes usually don't pose a threat to the environment, or the health of animals or other people and will not endanger the quality of watercourses.
- However, when there is a large amount of this type of waste, it can become an issue as it **begins to take up a lot of**

### **Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary:**

- Asola-Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary covering 32.71 sq km area lies on the Southern Delhi Ridge of **Aravalli hill range**, one of the oldest mountain systems of the world, on Delhi-Haryana border.
- An area of 1km around the Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary in Gurugram and Faridabad is an **Eco-sensitive zone**.

- Activities such as commercial mining, setting up of industries, and establishment of major hydro-electric projects are
- The Asola wildlife sanctuary has **both floral and faunal diversity** in form of
  - Wide variety of trees, shrubs, herbs and
  - Large numbers of mammals, reptiles, amphibians, butterflies and Sanctuary comprises around 200 species of **resident and migratory**
- Wildlife habitats inside the sanctuary act as a **water recharge zone** for Delhi, Faridabad and

### **Ridge Management Board:**

- **Background:** The **Supreme Court** mandated the Delhi Government to constitute a **Ridge Management Board** for protection of the **Delhi Ridge** through their orders in **the C. Mehta case 1987**.
  - The **Delhi Ridge** is the **northern extension of the Aravalli Range** covering a distance of about
  - The Delhi Ridge acts as the **green lungs of the capital** and, through various government orders over the years, all construction has been banned in the Ridge in an effort to preserve
- **Date of Establishment:** 6th October
- **Members:** The Chairman of the board is Chief Secretary of Delhi and Head of the Forest Department of Delhi Government is its Member
  - The Board also has members from the **Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs)**.

