

Mahendragiri Hills

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Mahendragiri Hills Latest News

Recently, environmentalists warn of unchecked tourism projects in Odisha's Mahendragiri hills

About Mahendragiri Hills

- **Location:** It is located in the **Gajapati district of Odisha** in the middle of Eastern Ghats.
- It was declared as a **Biodiversity Heritage Site in 2022** due to its rich flora and fauna.
- It is part of an almost unbroken chain of hills between the **Mahanadi and the Godavari rivers**.
- It is situated amongst the Eastern Ghats at an elevation of **1,501 metres above sea level**.
- **Tribal Communities:** It is home to the **Saora (Saura) and Kondh tribes**.
- **Biodiversity:** It supports 1,348 species of plants and 388 species of animals, many of them endemic and threatened.
- **Rivers:** The major river in the area is the **Mahendra Tanaya**, originating from the hill top of Mahendragiri.
- **Vegetation:** The vegetation of the region is marked with the presence of **tropical dry and wet deciduous forest range**.

- The principal rock types of the hill range are **granite, charnokite, khondalite** with intrusive veins of chert, chalcedony, quartz of both crystalline and opec forms.
- The site also attracts pilgrims to its **Panchpandava temples**.

Source: DTE

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/mahendragiri-hills/>

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