

Factly Weekly

Compilation

2024

**For UPSC CSE Prelims
Exam**

**3rd Week
January 2024**

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Subject: Polity and Nation

Recent judgement by HC held that foreigner cannot claim right to reside in India under Constitution

Why in news?

Recently, Delhi HC held in a judgement that foreigners cannot claim the right to reside in India under **Article 19(1)(e) of the Constitution of India**.

What is the judgement?

- 1) Delhi HC hearing a **habeas corpus petition** filed by a man claiming that his nephew, Azal Chakma, suspected to be a Bangladeshi national, was unlawfully detained by the Foreign Regional Registration Office.
- 2) Delhi HC dismissing the petition observed that **foreigners cannot claim the right to reside and settle in India in terms of Article 19 (1) (e) of the Constitution of India** as their fundamental rights are limited to the protection of life and liberty under **Article 21 of the Constitution of India**.
- 3) The bench made it clear that the prayer in the present writ petition is confined to habeas corpus relief. There is no indication that the detention of Mr. Azal Chakma is deemed illegal.
- 4) The bench also emphasized that **his movement restrictions are imposed to facilitate his availability for deportation, and such restrictions cannot be considered unlawful**.
- 5) The high court cited the **Supreme Court's ruling in Hans Muller of Nurenburg Vs. Superintendent, Presidency Jail, Calcutta**, highlighting that the apex court had emphasized the **absolute and unlimited power of the Indian government to expel foreigners**. The court noted that **there is no provision in the Constitution restraining such discretion**.

What does Article 19 (1) (d) and Article 19 (1) (e) states?

- 1) **Article 19(1)(d)** ensures the right to move freely within the country, encompassing the right to use roads and highways.
- 2) **Article 19(1)(e)** affirms the fundamental right of every citizen to reside and settle in any part of India.
- 3) **Article 19(1)(d) and (e) complement each other**, granting citizens the right to move freely and reside anywhere in India.
- 4) **Article 19(5)** allows reasonable restrictions on the right to freedom of movement and residence for the interests of the general public or the protection of any Scheduled Tribe.

What is illegal detention?

- 1) It is the **unjustifiable imprisonment or the unlawful deprivation of liberty** by the way of "arrest" for a wrongful cause or suspicion and continued restriction of freedom by such person in custody.
- 2) If a person is unlawfully detained by the police, the Constitution allows redressal by the filing of a habeas corpus petition under **Article 32 or 226**.
- 3) Habeas Corpus writ acts as **a remedial measure for the person who is illegally detained**.

Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR): Addressing Passenger Attacks on Pilots

Why in the News?

Recently, a passenger assaulted an IndiGo airline pilot following a prolonged delay caused by heavy fog in Delhi. This article explores the responses of airlines to such incidents of unruly passenger behavior.

How are airlines supposed to respond to incidents of unruly passenger behaviour?

The DGCA has issued guidelines known as 'Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR)' to all airlines. It outlines procedures to be followed in handling varying degrees of unruly passenger behavior during and after incidents.

- 1) The airline should **first notify passengers** that unruly behavior, as per guidelines, may lead to possible arrest.
- 2) If the pilots and central control determine that cabin crew cannot manage the unruly passenger, they must promptly **land at the nearest airport**.
- 3) Upon landing, **an airline representative will file an FIR (First Information Report)** with the relevant security agency at the aerodrome, where the unruly passenger will be handed over.
- 4) There are different levels of unruly passenger behavior outlined in the guidelines:

Level 1	Unruly behaviour, including physical gestures, verbal harassment, and unruly inebriation.
Level 2	Physically abusive behaviour, including pushing, kicking, hitting, and grabbing or inappropriate touching or sexual harassment.
Level 3	Life-threatening behaviour, including damage to aircraft operating systems, physical violence such as choking, eye gouging, murderous assault, and attempted or actual breach of flight crew compartment.

What penalties can unruly behaviour by a flight passenger attract?

- 1) The airline can **ban the unruly passenger for up to 30 days** immediately after the incident.
- 2) If the Internal Committee doesn't reach a decision within 30 days, the passenger will be **allowed to fly**.
- 3) Airlines must keep a database of unruly passengers, sharing it with the DGCA and other airlines to maintain a **No-Fly List**.
- 4) **Level 1 and 2 offenses** may result in flying **bans of up to three months and six months, respectively**.
- 5) **Level 3 offense** incurs a **minimum 2-year ban with no maximum limit**.
- 6) **Appeal**- Banned individuals can appeal **within 60 days to an Appellate Committee** led by a retired High Court judge. An appeal against the appellate panel's decision shall be made to a High Court.

What is 'prior approval' before probing corruption allegations against public officials?

Why in the News?

Recently, the Supreme Court issued a divided verdict on ex-Andhra Pradesh CM Chandrababu Naidu's plea to dismiss an FIR in a purported skill development scam. Now, the matter has been referred to the Chief Justice of India to form a three-judge bench for a decisive ruling on corruption charges against Naidu.

What does the Supreme Court held?

- 1) Justice Bose held that prior approval was necessary before conducting an inquiry into the allegations against Naidu, which the CID did not have when it opened the inquiry.
- 2) Justice Trivedi held it was necessary to seek approval under Section 17A of the PCA Act only to investigate offences committed after 2018, the year this requirement was introduced.

What is the 'Prior approval' requirement?

- 1) In 2003, an amendment to the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946 (specifically Section 6A) was made.
- 2) It mandated that agencies like the CBI are required to seek central government approval before probing alleged offenses under the Prevention of Corruption Act (PCA), 1988, if the implicated employee held a rank higher than joint secretary.
- 3) The Supreme Court eliminated this requirement in 2014.
- 4) In 2018, the PCA underwent an amendment, incorporating a comparable provision as Section 17A.
- 5) According to section 17A, if a public servant commits an offense under the Act during official duties, investigators must receive approval from the central/state government or a competent authority to initiate an inquiry or investigation.

What are the similar cases in which the Supreme Court addressed the prior approval issue?

CBI v R R Kishore- A Constitution Bench ruled that officials cannot assert immunity under Section 6A, even if the offense occurred prior to the annulment of this provision.

Subject: Indian Economy

Tea Industry in India

Why in the News?

Recently the Tea Association of India (TAI) has cautioned about challenges reminiscent of the "dark phase" observed in the country's tea industry from 2002-07.

What are the factors contributing to the current crisis in Tea industry in India?

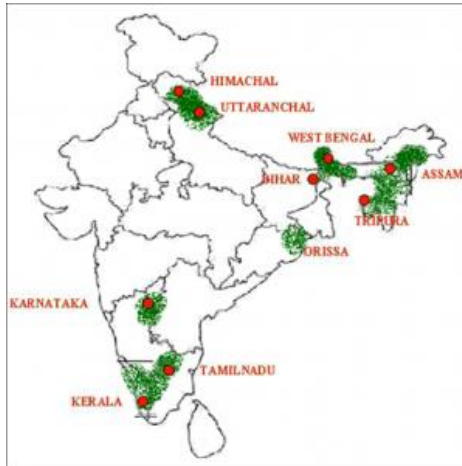
- 1) Stagnant prices

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- 2) Oversupply
- 3) Widening gap between demand and supply
- 4) Intense competition from other nations like Sri Lanka and Kenya.

Note- Over the past decade, the costs of essential inputs increased by 9-15%, while tea prices only saw a 4% rise.

What are the key details about tea & its production in India?



Source- ResearchGate

Specifications	Details
What is it?	1. Tea is a popular beverage made by infusing cured or fresh tea leaves of Camellia sinensis , in hot water. 2. It is the second most consumed drink in the world.
Origin	Tea is believed to have originated in ancient China , northeastern India, north Myanmar
International Day	May 21 every year (Designated by UN General Assembly in 2019)
Growth Conditions	1. Temperature - 16-32 degree C 2. Rainfall - 15-300 cm per annum 3. Relative humidity should be around 80% most of the time and should never be less than 40 %. 4. The area should not be prone to frost . 5. The soil should be acidic (around PH 5.0) with good drainage facility.
GI Tag	Darjeeling Tea known as the 'Champagne of Teas' was the first 'GI product'
Production	1. India is the second largest producer of tea after China globally (Largest black tea producer) 2. The majority of its annual production comes from Assam (55%) and West Bengal
Consumption	India is among the world's top tea consuming countries, with 80 % of its production consumed domestically
Regulator	Tea Board of India

What is Tea Board of India?

- 1) It is a **statutory body** set up under section 4 of the Tea Act, 1953 was constituted on 1st April 1954.
- 2) The present Tea Board is functioning as a statutory body of the Central Government **under the Ministry of Commerce**.
- 3) **Head office-** Kolkata.
- 4) **Overseas offices** – Dubai and Moscow.
- 5) **Functions-** Rendering financial and technical assistance for the cultivation, manufacture and marketing of tea, export promotion, aiding Research and Development activities for augmentation of tea production and improvement of tea quality.

Lentil Production at an all-time high

Why in the News?

India is anticipated to lead global lentil (masoor) production in 2023-24, due to increased cultivation.

Why is this significant for India?

- 1) Since reaching its highest output of **1.62 million tonnes in 2017-18, India's lentil production decreased**. Official data for the 2022-23 crop year indicates a production of 1.56 million tonnes.
- 2) As per the **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**, the leading lentil-producing countries in 2022 included **Canada, India**, Australia, Turkey, and Russia.
- 3) Although **India ranks as the second-largest lentil producer**, it has **predominantly imported** from Australia, Canada, Russia, Singapore, and Turkey until now.
- 4) During the current year, it also imported some quantities of lentil from UAE, USA, Sri Lanka and Nepal.
- 5) The projected lentil production figures for 2023-24 could potentially **contribute to a reduction in crop imports**.

What are the distinctive characteristics of the lentil crop?

- 1) It is a valuable human food, mostly consumed as dry seeds.
- 2) Lentils are small, lens-shaped seeds that come in various colors, with red and green being popular varieties in India.
- 3) Lentil is also called Masur and Malka (bold seeded).

Specifications	Details
Worldwide Cultivation	It is extensively grown across Europe, Asia, and North Africa.
Cultivation in India	Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Punjab, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, and others in India.
Nutritional Value	Cooked lentils consist of approximately 70% water, 20% carbohydrates, 9% protein, and 0.4% fat.

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Climatic conditions	<p>a) It requires a cold climate.</p> <p>b) It is very hardy, withstanding frost and severe winter conditions to a significant degree.</p> <p>c) It requires cold temperature during its vegetative growth and warm temperature at the time of maturity.</p> <p>d) Temperature: The ideal growth temperature falls within the range of 18-30°C. It is cultivated at altitudes up to 3,500 meters in the north-western hills.</p> <p>e) Soil: Optimal lentil cultivation occurs in well-drained loam soils with a neutral pH. Acidic soils are unsuitable for lentil growth.</p>
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Multidimensional Poverty discussion Paper by NITI Aayog

Why in the News?

Recently, NITI Aayog has released a discussion paper 'Multidimensional Poverty in India since 2005-06'.

What are the key findings of the NITI Aayog discussion paper?

Note: The discussion paper utilizes MPI data (MPI, 2023, released in July 2023) derived from the National Family Health Surveys (NFHS) conducted in 2015-16 and 2019-21, along with **NFHS-3 data** from 2005-06, to **analyze long-term poverty trends**. You can also say that it is an updated version of previously released **Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index 2023**.

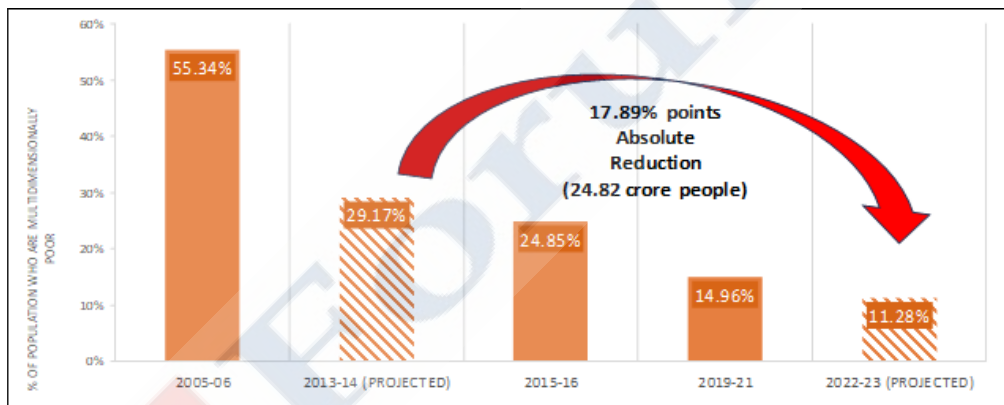


Figure 1. Source- PIB

1) India has registered a significant decline in multidimensional poverty in India from **29.17% in 2013-14 to 11.28% in 2022-23** (a reduction of 17.89 percentage points).

- In numbers

about 24.82 crore people escaped multidimensional Poverty in last 9 years.

2) **Uttar Pradesh** topped the list with 5.94 crore people escaping poverty followed by Bihar and Madhya Pradesh.

3) The paper reveals a faster decline in the poverty **headcount ratio** from 2015-16 to 2019-21 (10.66% annual rate) **compared** to the period 2005-06 to 2015-16 (7.69% annual rate).

4) **All 12 indicators** of MPI have recorded significant improvement during the entire study period.

5) India is poised to achieve **single-digit poverty rates by the year 2024**.

6) India is likely to achieve **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 1.2** (reducing multidimensional poverty by at least half) much ahead of 2030.

What is National Multidimensional Poverty Index(MPI)?

1) The National MPI is a metric used to evaluate poverty in a country by considering multiple dimensions beyond income or consumption expenditure.

2) **Indicators**- The index is based on three equally weighted dimensions – health, education and standard of living – which in turn are represented by **12 indicators**.

– However, the National MPI covers 12 indicators while **global MPI covers 10 indicators**.

3) **Methodology**– The National MPI by Niti Aayog uses the **Alkire Foster methodology** to assess the decline in poverty rates.

Total expense ratio

Why in the news?

The market regulator SEBI had announced to tweak total expense ratio.

What is Total expense ratio?

The total expense ratio (TER) is a measure of the total costs associated with managing and operating an investment fund, such as a **mutual fund**. It consists of **management fees, trading fee, legal fee etc**.

What is the importance of TER?

1) It is a measure of a fund's operational efficiency.

2) Investors pay attention to the expense ratio to understand if a fund is an appropriate investment for them after fees are considered.

What was the need for tweaking?

1) The intent of altering TER norms last year was to improve **transparency** and pass on the benefit of scale to investors.

2) The expense ratio eats into returns. The **higher the expense ratio, the lower are the returns** on the investment. Hence, there was a need to rationalize it.

Mutual Fund Advisory Committee

The committee is mandated to advise **SEBI (securities and Exchange Board of India)** on issues related to **regulation and development** of mutual fund industry.

Securities and Exchange Board of India

The Securities and Exchange Board of India was established as a **statutory body** in the year **1992** under the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992 (SEBI Act, 1992)

Subject: Science & Technology

India Meteorological Department Marks 150 years of serving the nation

Why in the News?

Recently, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) celebrated its 150th year of establishment and service to the nation.

Which significant services of the IMD were launched on this occasion?

Services	Details
Weather Analysis and Forecast Enabling System (WAFES)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. It is a Web-GIS-based integrated Decision Support System (DSS) platform for visualizing meteorological observations and prediction models, thus facilitating decision-making regarding severe weather events.2. It provides real-time information for various sectors such as Urban, Power, Hydrology, Health, Energy, Agriculture, Transport and Tourism under the 'UPHHEATT' initiative.
Panchayat Mausam Seva Portal for farmers	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Developed by- India Meteorological Department, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Ministry of Panchayati Raj and Green Alert Mausam Sewa.2. Purpose- This portal will deliver weather forecasts in English, Hindi, and 12 regional languages to every village by providing access to each panchayat head and panchayat secretary.
IMD's Mobile App	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. It is an integrated GIS-based mobile app providing a range of weather services.2. It supports 12 Indian languages for diverse users.
National Framework of Climate Services (NFCS)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. It is a strategic initiative to establish a comprehensive and integrated system for delivering climate services and information.2. Purpose- To offer crucial climate-related data and insights to diverse sectors such as agriculture, energy, disaster management, health, and water resource management.

What is India Meteorological Department (IMD)?

IMD or the India Meteorological Department was **established in 1875**. It is responsible for meteorological observations, weather forecasting and seismology in India.

Paramyrothecium indicum – Scientists discover new species of fungus in Kerala

Why in the News?

Scientists have recently discovered a new species of fungus in Kerala, named 'Paramyrothecium indicum'.

What is 'Paramyrothecium indicum'?

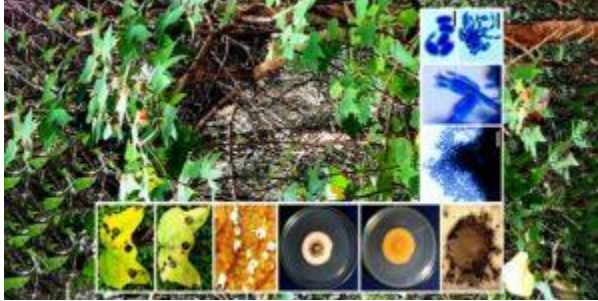


Figure 2. Source- Newscareer360

1. It is a new species of **phytopathogenic fungus**. **Note**– phytopathogenic fungus is associated with emerging leaf spots on the wild hibiscus plants near **Peechi-Vazhani Wildlife Sanctuary** in Thrissur district of Kerala.
2. Phytopathogens are **parasites** that thrive on a host plant.
3. The **majority of Paramyrothecium** species are considered phytopathogens.
4. Phytopathogen fungi are responsible for **serious plant diseases** which might negatively affect crop productivity.
5. **Leaf spots** caused by Paramyrothecium represent a fungal disease capable of affecting various plant species.
6. Certain Paramyrothecium species **generate secondary metabolites** with bio-herbicidal potential, suggesting their **potential use in weed control**.

What is Fungi?



Figure 3. Source- Earth.com

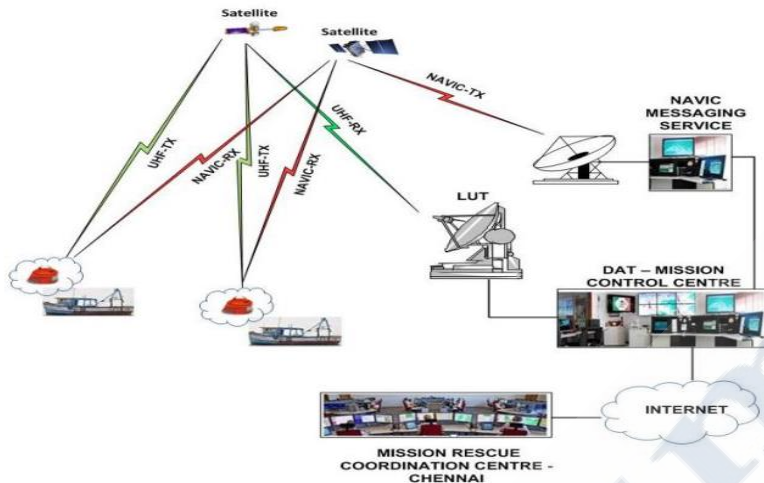
- 1) They are a diverse group of organisms that belong to the biological kingdom Fungi.
- 2) They include a wide range of organisms, such as **mushrooms, molds, yeasts, rusts, smuts, mildews**.
- 3) Fungi are distinct from plants, animals, and bacteria, forming their own kingdom.
- 4) They are **eukaryotic organisms**, meaning their cells possess membrane-bound organelles and well-defined nuclei.
- 5) **Reproduction:** Fungi usually **reproduce both sexually and asexually**.

Distress Alert Transmitter of ISRO


Why in the News?

Recently the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has developed an improvised distress alert transmitter (DAT-SG) with advanced capabilities for fishermen at sea to send emergency messages from boats.

What is Distress alert transmitter (DAT)?



Source- Space application centre

Specifications	Details
About	<p>It is a device used for sending emergency messages from fishing boats.</p>  <p>Source- NewSpace India Limited</p>
Developed by	ISRO
First Version	Operational since 2010
Latest Version	Second generation DAT (DAT-SG)

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Functions	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Conventionally, using DAT, messages are transmitted via a communication satellite to the Indian Mission Control Centre, where alert signals are decoded for the fishing boat's identity and location.2. The information is then relayed to maritime rescue coordination centers (MRCCs) of the Indian Coast Guard, which coordinates search and rescue operations for distressed fishermen.
DAT-SG with additional features	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Real-Time Acknowledgments- Besides sending distress signals, the DAT-SG has the facility to send back acknowledgement to the fishermen who activate the distress alert from sea. This will provide them with assurance that help is on the way.2. Two-way communication- In addition to sending distress signals, it can also receive messages from control centers. It will help in providing advance warnings about adverse weather, cyclones, tsunamis, or emergencies.3. Potential Fishing Zones (PFZs) updates- DAT-SG transmits regular updates on Potential Fishing Zones (PFZs) to fishermen, aiding them in maximizing catches and saving time and fuel.4. Bluetooth connectivity- It can connect to mobile phones via Bluetooth, allowing messages to be read in the native language through a dedicated app.

Note- The central control center (INMCC) utilizes the web-based network management system 'SAGARMITRA' to keep a database of registered DAT-SGs. This aids MRCCs in accessing immediate information about distressed boats, allowing the Indian Coast Guard to carry out swift Search & Rescue operations.

Centre for Fourth Industrial Relation

Why in the news?

The World Economic Forum has agreed to set up its Centre for **Fourth Industrial Revolution (C4IR) in Hyderabad**.

What is Centre for fourth industrial relation?

C4IR stands for the Centre for Fourth Industrial Revolution. It is an initiative by the **World Economic Forum (WEF)** to establish centers that focus on harnessing the potential of technological progress for **human-centric** transformation of industries, economies and societies.

The agreement between **Telangana government** and **WEF** aims to use technology for improvement in the **life sciences** and **healthcare sector**. **The focus of C4IR** is to provide the best healthcare services to small towns and villages.

What is meant by the 4th Industrial Revolution?

The Fourth Industrial Revolution is the current and developing environment in which disruptive technologies and trends such as the **Internet of Things (IoT)**, **robotics**, **virtual reality (VR)** and **artificial intelligence (AI)** are changing the way modern people live and work.

World Economic Forum

The World Economic Forum (WEF) is an international non-governmental organization for public-private sector collaboration based in Switzerland. It was founded on 24 January 1971 by Klaus Schwab.

Subject: Environment

Denmark announces alliance on green fuels in India

Why in news?

Recently, the Danish government, in collaboration with A.P. Moller-Mersk and other partners, has announced the formation of the Green Fuels Alliance India (GFAI) to advance their **joint global goal towards carbon neutrality**.

The alliance is underpinned by the **Green Strategic Partnership (GSP)** signed between India and Denmark in 2020.

What is Green Fuels Alliance India (GFAI)?

Specifications	Details
What is it?	Green Fuels Alliance India (GFAI) is an alliance between the Denmark and India to boost collaborative efforts in the sustainable energy solutions sector .
Led by	Danish Embassy and the Consulate General of Denmark in India .
Aim	to advance the green fuels sector, including green hydrogen, through innovation and partnerships.
Objective	To promote sustainable energy growth in India by establishing an ecosystem that encourages collaboration among businesses, government entities, research institutions, and financial stakeholders.
Founding members of the GFAI	Nine prominent Danish organisations such as Maersk, Topsoe, Umwelt Energy, Mash Makes, European Sustainable Solutions, Novozymes, Danfoss, Brdr. Christensen, and Hydrogen Denmark.
Advisory board members of the GFAI	India Hydrogen Alliance, Energy Consortium at the Indian Institute of Technology Madras, the Danish Energy Agency and State of Green.

Himalayan Wolf

Why in the News?

The Himalayan Wolf (*Canis lupus chanco*) has been **assessed for the first time** on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List.

About Himalayan Wolf

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Source- Think wildlife Foundation

Specifications	Details
What is it?	It is a subspecies of the gray wolf found in the Himalayan region, spanning areas such as Nepal, India, and the Tibetan Plateau.
Conservation Status	IUCN: Vulnerable CITES: Appendix I Wildlife Protection Act, 1972: Schedule I
Distribution	1. The Himalayan wolf resides on the Tibetan Plateau in China, particularly in Gansu, Qinghai, Tibet, and western Sichuan provinces. 2. In Northern India, the Himalayan wolf is found in Ladakh and the Lahaul-Spiti region in northeastern Himachal Pradesh. Note- India is also home to the Indian/Common/Peninsular Wolf (<i>Canis lupus pallipes</i>) found in the plains and the Deccan Plateau.
Population	The assessment estimates that there are 2,275-3,792 mature individuals scattered throughout the Himalayan region, encompassing Nepal, India, and the Tibetan Plateau.
Threats	1. Illegal hunting for the illicit trade of its fur and body parts, including paws, tongues, heads, and other components. 2. Encroachment 3. Depletion of prey populations
Features	1. Himalayan wolves are smaller and more compact than other subspecies, characterized by shorter legs and snouts. 2. Well-adapted to the harsh mountainous terrain, they possess strong limbs and a stout body, enabling them to navigate and survive in challenging environments.

What measures are recommended in the assessment?

1. Ensuring the well-being of prey populations.
2. Enhancing livestock guarding techniques.
3. Addressing feral dog populations.

4. Implementing transboundary conservation initiatives.
5. Integrating the Himalayan Wolf into **conservation programs** for increased protection.

Pench Tiger Reserve Marked as India's first International Dark Sky Park

Why in News?

Recently, the Pench Tiger Reserve (PTR) in Maharashtra has been marked as **India's first international Dark Sky Park**.

Why Pench Tiger Reserve (PTR) marked as Dark Sky Park?

- 1) A **night observatory has been established** and the area near Bagholi is designated for stargazing.
- 2) The **park has replaced over 100 street and community lights** with **downward-facing lights** in various villages, minimizing their impact on the night sky.
- 3) All these efforts helps in **protecting the night sky, preventing light pollution and promoting astronomy**.

The IUCN emphasizes preserving natural darkness for **nature conservation, maintaining ecological integrity in protected areas, and ensuring the well-being of communities in healthy cities**.

What is a Dark Sky Park?

- 1) Dark sky Park is an area surrounding a park or observatory that **restricts artificial light pollution**.
- 2) **Purpose:** Protection of night skies from light pollution, promote astronomy
- 3) **Certified by:** The International Dark-Sky Association
- 4) **DSP certification focuses on** lighting policy, dark sky-friendly retrofits, outreach, education, and night sky monitoring.
- 5) **India's first dark-sky preserve:** Indian Astronomical Observatory (IAO)
 - **Situated at:** Hanle, Ladakh
 - **Operated by:** The Indian Institute of Astrophysics
 - **Significance:** world's highest located sites for optical, infrared and gamma-ray telescopes.
- 6) The **Pench Tiger Reserve (PTR) in Maharashtra is India's first Dark Sky Park and Asia's fifth Dark Sky park**.

What is Pench Tiger reserve?

Specifications	Details
Location	Maharashtra
Geographical Features	1. The sanctuary is located across two states of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra . 2. The portion of the reserve that is in Madhya Pradesh is located in the Satpura ranges.
National Park	1. The reserve comprises the Indira Priyadarshini Pench National Park, the Pench

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	Mowgli Sanctuary and a buffer. 2. The reserve is also among the sites notified as Important Bird Areas (IBA) of India.
Significance	1. Typical representation of the wilderness of great Central Indian Highland. 2. Excellent habitat to harbor the Tiger , the highly endangered species. 3. Catchment of river Pench that ultimately affects the storage of water in the Totladoh reservoir – the main source of water supplies to Nagpur and generation of electricity for Madhya Pradesh.
Rivers	The Pench river flows through the middle of the park.
Flora	1) Combination of Southern dry broadleaf teak forests and tropical mixed deciduous forests. 2) Various shrubs, climbers, and trees , some of which are unique with medicinal and healing properties. 3) Bamboo plantations are also found near the water banks.
Fauna	1) It includes various mammals such as sloth bear, jackal, nilgai, wild dog etc. 2) Birds like peafowl, magpie robin, pintail, drongo, unia, myna etc. are also found.

Vulture restaurant in Jharkhand

Why in the News?

In Jharkhand, a 'Vulture Restaurant' has been established in Koderma district as part of conservation efforts to conserve the diminishing vulture population.

Why has this initiative been taken?

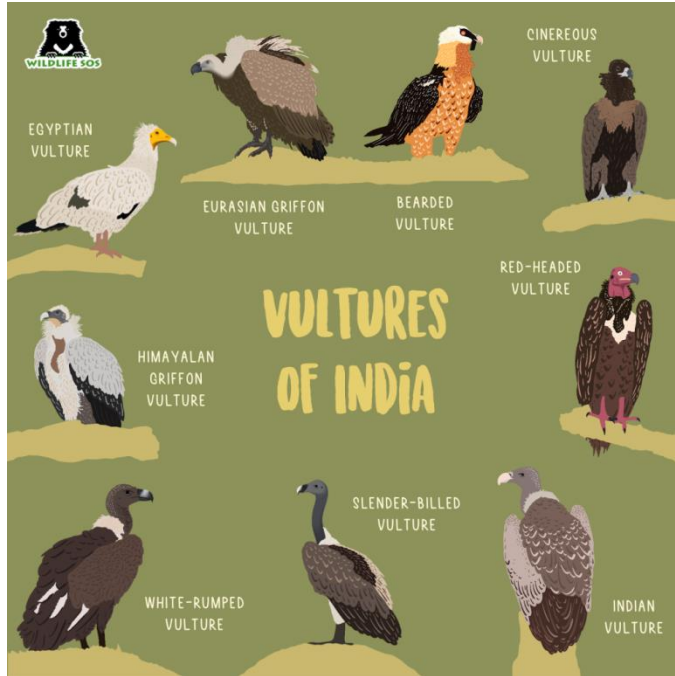
1) **Aim-** The initiative aims to **mitigate the negative effects of veterinary drugs**, especially **diclofenac**, on vultures.

Note- Exposure to diclofenac-contaminated tissues leads to kidney failure in vultures.

2) It serves as a designated **feeding site for the Vultures**. To prevent interference from other animals, bamboo fencing has been erected around the feeding site.

3) The Jharkhand Forest Department also **plans to establish a center** for vulture interpretation and rescue, incorporating **geo-tagging** for enhanced monitoring.

About Vulture



Source-Wildlife SOS

Specifications	Details
What is it?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It belongs to the category of 22 large scavenging birds, primarily inhabiting tropical and subtropical regions. 2. They are known for their role in cleaning up carrion (the flesh of dead animals).
Vultures in India	India is home to 9 species of Vulture namely the Oriental white-backed, Long-billed, Slender-billed, Himalayan, Red-headed, Egyptian, Bearded, Cinereous and the Eurasian Griffon.
Conservation Status	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CITES: Appendix II 2. Wildlife Protection Act, 1972: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Schedule I- Bearded, Long-billed, Slender-billed, and Oriental white-backed vultures b. Schedule IV- Himalayan, Red-headed, Egyptian, Cinereous, Eurasian Griffon.
Distribution	Vultures are widely distributed, but they are absent from Australia and most oceanic islands.

Punganur cows

Why in the News?

Recently, the Prime Minister was observed personally providing fodder to several Punganur cows at his residence in New Delhi.

About Punganur Cow

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Source- Cow connection

Aspect	Details
About	It is an indigenous breed of cattle, native to Punganur village in the Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh .
Features	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Size-They're a distinctive dwarf breed, recognized as the world's shortest humped cattle (Standing at just around 70-90 cm tall and weighing less than 200 kg).2. Coat Color- Ranging from white, grey, and light brown to dark brown or red, some individuals may exhibit a combination of white with patches of red, brown, or black.3. This breed is well-suited to hot and arid climates.4. They are valued for their high-fat A2 type milk, perfect for ghee production, yielding 1 to 3 liters per day with 8% milk fat, surpassing other native breeds with 3 to 4% fat.
Population Distribution	Punganur cows are currently present not just in Andhra Pradesh but also in Telangana, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, and Tamil Nadu .
Conservation efforts	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Andhra Pradesh government has launched "Mission Punganur" to boost the cattle population using IVF technology.2. Centre has also sanctioned funds for the promotion of Punganur and other indigenous breeds of cattle in Telangana.

What are the other indigenous breeds of cattle in India ?

- 1) In 2019, India had 192.49 million cattle population, out of which 50.42 million belonged to exotic breeds and crossbreeds.
- 2) The remaining **larger chunk of 142.11 million belongs to the Indigenous breeds**.
- 3) **Gir, Sahiwal, Bargur, Onglore, and Kaangayam** represent some other well-known indigenous cow breeds in India.

Significance of Punganur breed:

- 1) Beyond their economic and indigenous importance, these cows are revered as a '**goldmine**' in the region, playing a crucial role in **local temple ceremonies**.
- 2) The **Vijayanagar Emperors** supported this breed, and it has a **historical connection to wealth and prosperity**.

Bamboo Composites

Why in the News?

Recently, at the India International Science Festival (IISF 2023) in Faridabad, technology related to 'Bamboo Composites' was transferred to a prominent materials manufacturing company.

What are Bamboo Composites?



Figure 4. Source- ResearchGate

1) Bamboo composites are materials that blend bamboo fibers with other substances to form composite materials.

2) These composites utilize bamboo's strength, flexibility, and sustainability for versatile applications in construction, furniture, and various industries.

3) In just 3-4 years, mature bamboo can be used for bamboo composites, contrasting with teak wood that takes

30-40 years to grow.

4) The resulting bamboo composite

product shares similarities with teak wood but boasts improved durability, dimensional stability, high strength, density, etc.

What is the bamboo composite manufacturing technology?



Figure 5. Source- PIB

1) **Developed by-** CSIR – Advanced Materials And Process Research Institute (AMPRI), Bhopal

2) CSIR-AMPRI's bamboo composite technology cuts, treats, and compacts bamboo for optimal strength and shape.

3) **Significance:**

a. The bamboo composite can be used in various sectors, especially for aerospace.

b. It has the potential to yield future products akin to wood but with a

harvest cycle ten times faster.

c. The technology has the potential to attract micro, small, and medium enterprises, startups, etc., contributing to achieving sustainable goals like Aatmanirbhar Bharat, Swasth Bharat Abhiyaan, and Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan.

What are the different policy measures implemented by the government to encourage bamboo Sector?

National Bamboo Mission: The National Bamboo Mission was **launched in 2006-07 as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme** to promote the growth of bamboo sector.

What is the India International Science Festival (IISF)?

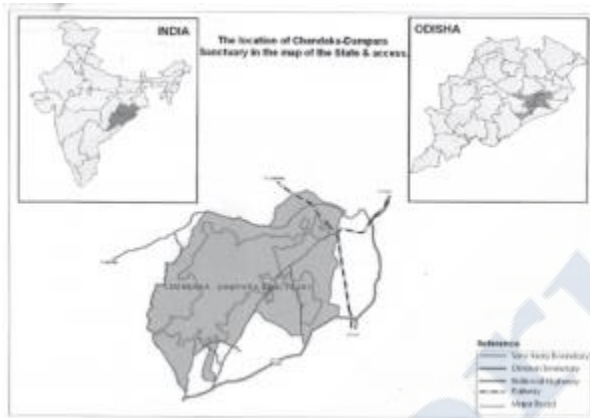
- 1) It is a **science movement spearheaded by scientists** of the nation with swadeshi spirit.
- 2) **Organised by**- Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Department of Space and Department of Atomic Energy in partnership with Vijnana Bharati.

Chandaka - Dampara wildlife sanctuary

Why in the News?

The Odisha state government is planning to introduce Sambar and Gaur (bison) to the Chandaka-Dampara wildlife sanctuary.

About Chandaka-Dampara wildlife sanctuary



Source- ResearchGate

Aspect	Details
Location	1. It is located in the Odisha’s Khurda district . 2. It marks the northeastern edge of the Eastern Ghats .
Sanctuary Status	It designated as a sanctuary in 1982 .
Vegetation	1. This landscape experiences a tropical climate characterized by distinct summer, rainy season, and winter periods. 2. The flora is moderately diverse, blending evergreen and deciduous elements . 3. Despite falling under the semi-evergreen forest zone, the interplay of biotic factors has altered the original vegetation character .
Flora	Bankapasia (Kydia calycina), Gandhana (Premna mucronata), Dhaman (Grewia Tiliaefolia) ,Kansa (Hymenodictyon excelsum),Jamu (Syzygium Cuminii), Kusum (Schleichera oleosa) , Sidha (Lagerstroemia parviflora), Karanja, Thorny bamboo etc.

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Fauna	Elephants, barking deer, Wild Boar, Rhesus Monkey, Pangolin, Sloth Bear, Indian Wolf, Hyena and other mammals.
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About Indian Gaur or Bison

- 1) Indian Gaur or Bison is the largest species among the wild cattle and the Bovidae.
- 2) **Habitat:** Indian Bisons are mostly found in the hilly parts of the Western Ghats region such as Bandipur, Wayanad and Mudumalai.
- 3) **State Animal:** Gaur is the state animal of Goa and Bihar.
- 4) **Conservation Status:**
 - a. IUCN Status: **Vulnerable**
 - b. Wildlife Protection Act, 1972: **Schedule I**

Subject: Schemes & Programmes

Khelo India Youth Games (KIYG) 2023

Why in the News?

The Prime Minister recently inaugurated the opening ceremony of the Khelo India Youth Games 2023 in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

What are Khelo India Youth Games (KIYG)?

Aspect	Details
About	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. These are annual national-level multidisciplinary sports events held in India.2. KIYG is a part of the Khelo India Programme.
Objective	To revive India's grassroots sports culture by building a strong framework for all sports and establish the country as a great sporting nation.
Edition	The first edition was held in 2018 in Delhi.
Features	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The event includes two categories: under-17 school students and under-21 college students.2. Talented players in priority sports identified by the High-Powered Committee will receive INR 5 lakh annually for 8 years.
KIYG 2023	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. This is the 6th edition of Khelo India Youth Games.2. Mascot– VeeraMangai Velu Nachiyar (first Indian queen to wage war with the East India Company in India).3. The games logo integrates the image of the poet Thiruvalluvar.4. The event will include 26 sports disciplines and 1 demo sport.5. Archery, athletics, badminton, and squash have been introduced first time in this edition.6. Silambam, a traditional martial art sport of Tamil Nadu, is also being introduced as a demo sport for the first time in KIYG history.

Subject: Art & Culture

India's oldest living city found in Vadnagar, Gujrat

Why in the News?

Recently an archaeological excavation at Gujarat's Vadnagar has discovered evidence of human settlement dating back to 1,400 BCE.

What are the findings of the excavation?



Figure 6. Source- The Hindu

- 1) The excavation has revealed characteristic archaeological artefacts, potteries, copper, gold, silver and iron objects and intricately designed bangles.
- 2) One of the oldest **Buddhist monasteries** also has been discovered.
- 3) The study suggests that **climate-induced changes**, such as rainfall or droughts, played a key role in the rise and fall of various kingdoms over 3,000 years and recurring invasions of India by Central Asian warriors.
- 4) Radiocarbon dates reveal the **successive rulers** of Vadnagar:

- a. Indo-Greeks (until 100 CE)
- b. Indo-Scythian or Shakas, known as Kshatrapa kings (until 400 CE)
- c. Maitrakas (Gupta kingdom), Rashtrakuta-Pratihara-Chawada kings (until 930 CE)
- d. Solanki kings (Chalukya rule until 1,300 CE)
- e. Sultanate-Mughals (1680 CE)
- f. Gaekwad/British

What is the Significance of the study?

- 1) This discovery is crucial as it **fills a gap in Indian archaeological history between 1,500 BCE and 500 BCE**, revealing a **continuity in human settlement in India** spanning over 5,500 years.
- 2) No advanced city-like settlement was recorded before 500 BCE.
- 3) The team suggests the settlement might date back to 1,400 BCE, aligning with the late phase of the post-urban Harappan period. If accurate, it challenges the notion of a **Dark Age**, indicating a cultural continuity in India for the past 5,500 years.

Dark Age- The time frame from the **decline of the Indus Valley Civilization around 4,000 years ago (early 2nd millennium BCE) until the rise of the Iron Age and Mahajanapada cities** like Gandhar, Koshal, and Avanti (6th-5th century BCE).

About Excavation

- 1) **Conducted by-** A joint team of scientists from IIT Kharagpur, **Archaeological Survey of India**, Physical Research Laboratory, Jawaharlal Nehru University, and Deccan College.

2) **Funded by-** Infosys Foundation and the Gujarat government's Directorate of Archaeology & Museums, responsible for developing India's inaugural experiential digital museum in Vadnagar.

Veerabhadra temple in Lepakshi

Why in the News?

The Prime Minister recently visited the Veerabhadra temple in Lepakshi, Andhra Pradesh. He is completing the 11-day special ritual for the consecration of the idol of Lord Ram at the Ayodhya Ram temple.

What is the significance of Lepakshi in the Ramayana?

- 1) 'Lepakshi' in Telugu means 'Rise, oh bird.' It is **named in honor of Jatayu**, the legendary bird that bravely fought Ravan while he was transporting Sita to Lanka on his Pushpaka Vimana after kidnapping her.
- 2) According to the Ramayana, Lepakshi is believed to be the **place where the wounded Jatayu fell** during his fight with Ravan.
- 3) The Lepakshi temple is also believed to have **preserved footprints of Goddess Sita**.

About Veerabhadra temple, Lepakshi



Source- Wikipedia

Aspect	Details
About	It is a Hindu temple situated in Lepakshi, in the state of Andhra Pradesh , India
Built by	Vijayanagara rulers in 1530 AD
Features	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The temple is dedicated to the Virabhadra, a fierce incarnation of Lord Shiva.2. The primary deity of the main shrine is Lord Shiva, and there are additional shrines dedicated to Ganesha and Durga.3. The temple exhibits Vijayanagara-style architecture, adorned with intricate carvings and paintings on nearly every visible surface.

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	<p>4. The vibrant fresco paintings showcase intricate details in bright colors, depicting scenes from the Ramayana, the Mahabharata, and the Puranas.</p> <p>5. According to the Skanda Purana, the temple is a significant divyakshetra, a pilgrimage site dedicated to Lord Shiva.</p>
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What are the latest temple visits of PM Modi?

- 1) Recently, PM Modi also visited **Kalaram temple** in Panchavati, Nashik (Maharashtra).
- 2) It is believed that Lord Ram, Sita and Laxman settled here first during their 14-year exile in the forest of which Panchavati was a part.
- 3) The temple, **crafted from black basalt stone**, features 14 steps representing Lord Ram's 14 years of exile. The black idols of Lord Ram, Laxman, and Sita, situated within, **depict Lord Ram without a bow and arrow**, positioned to convey blessings.

PM Modi visits Guruvayur Temple

Why in the News?

The Prime Minister recently visited the Sreekrishna Temple in Guruvayur, Kerala to offer prayers.

About Guruvayur Temple



Source- TripAdvisor

Aspect	Details
About	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. It is a Hindu temple, often referred to as the Southern Dwarka.2. It is dedicated to Lord Vishnu in the youthful form of Lord Krishna.
Location	It is located in the town of Guruvayur in Kerala, India.
Construction	The earliest temple records date back to the 17th century, yet other literary texts and legends suggest that the temple may be approximately 5000 years old.
Features	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Chief deity here is Lord Krishna, also known as Guruvayoorappan.2. The chief deity is portrayed standing with four hands, grasping Shankh, Sudarshana Chakra, Lotus, and Mace, all carved from a stone known as Patala Anjana.3. It follows the traditional Kerala architectural style.

	<p>4. The temple has structures like the Nalambalam (temple structure surrounding the sanctum sanctorum), Balikkal (sacrificial stone), and Deepastambam (pillar of lights).</p> <p>5. A prominent feature is the Dwajasthamba, a 70-foot-tall flagstaff completely coated in gold.</p> <p>6. In 1931-32, Sathyagraha was initiated by Kelappan (known as Kerala Gandhi) to advocate for the inclusion of untouchables into the temple. It resulted in the Travancore Temple Entry Proclamation of 1936.</p> <p>7. The temple is known for housing a significant number of captive male Asian elephants. The nearby Punnathur Kotta elephant sanctuary is home to 56 elephants.</p>
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Nagara style of temple architecture

Why in the news?

The Ram temple in Ayodhya is going to be inaugurated on January 22.

What is the Nagara style of temple architecture?

Originated from the word Nagara meaning town or city. It's the style of temple in the northern India. This style developed in the 5th century, characterized by a curvilinear or convex shikhara. The shikhara is topped by a larger round cushion-like element called an Amalaka.

What are the features of Nagara style of temple?

1. It does not have elaborate boundary walls or gateways.
2. The entire temple is built on a stone platform with steps leading up to it.
3. The garbhagriha (sanctum sanctorum) is always located under the tallest tower. Garbhagriha is the place where main deity is placed. It is the most sacred part of the temple.
4. Shikharas are human-made representations of the natural and cosmological order, as imagined in Hindu tradition. For example; Meru, Mandara, and Kailasa are the three mountains which are believed to be axis of world. Example-Kandariya Mahadev Temple in Khajuraho, M.P.
5. Amalaka or Kalash installed on Shikhara is one of the features of this temple style.
6. It also consists of a circumambulatory path around the garbhagriha.
7. Other examples of Nagara style of temples in India are- Sun temple, Konark, Sun temple at Modhera, Gujarat and Osian temple, Gujarat.

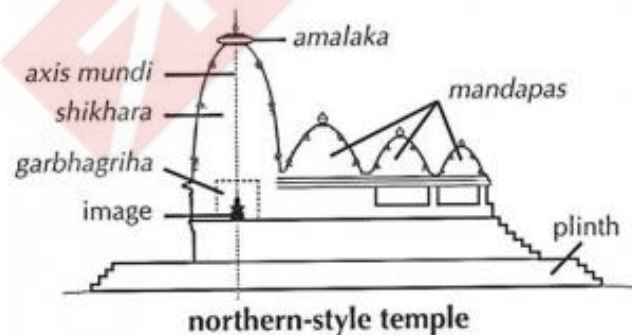


Figure 7. Image based on EB

Havell's The ancient and Medieval Architecture of India.

What are the modes of nagara architecture?

Adam Hardy, who is the author of the book *The Temple Architecture of India* (2007) identifies five modes of Nagara temple architecture — Valabhi, Phamsana, Latina, Shekhari, and Bhumija.

What is the difference between Dravida and

Nagara Style of Architecture?

Area of difference	Dravida style	Nagara style
Location	Southern India	Northern India
Mandapa towers	Single tower	Multiple tower
Central towers	Shaped like a pyramid	Curvilinear in shape
Boundaries	Boundaries are given great importance.	Boundaries are not given great importance.

Subject: Geography & Places in News

India-Argentina Agreement on Lithium Mines

Why in news?

Recently, India signed an agreement to acquire five lithium brine blocks for exploration and development in Argentina.

What is this agreement?

- 1) **Agreement Signed Between** – India and Argentina
- 2) **Enterprises involved** – Khanij Bidesh India Ltd (KABIL) and Catamarca Minera Y Energética Sociedad Del Estado (CAMYEN)
- 3) **Aim:** Bringing sustainable development to the mining sector, ensuring a resilient and diversified supply chain for critical and strategic minerals essential for various industries.

What is the significance of the agreement?

- 1) This is the **first-ever lithium exploration and mining project** signed by a state-owned company.
- 2) By securing lithium blocks in Argentina, India will propel its **quest for self-reliance in meeting clean energy demand**.
- 3) It will also **help in bringing in technical and operational experience for brine type lithium exploration**, exploitation and extraction.
- 4) This agreement will also aid India's objective **to attain net-zero emissions by 2070** and establish itself as a **manufacturing hub for electric vehicles**.

What is the status of lithium in India?

- 1) India's first major lithium reserve has been found in the **Salal-Haimana area of Reasi District in Jammu and Kashmir**. Some small reserves are also present in **Karnataka**.
- 2) Currently, the country lithium demand is met through **100% import**.
- 3) In the fiscal year 2023, India witnessed a surge in lithium imports, reaching **around \$3 billion (approximately ₹24,900 crore)**, reflecting a 58% rise compared to the figures in FY22.
- 4) Over **95 per cent of India's lithium imports** originate from **China and Hong Kong**.

Where are the world's lithium reserves?

- 1) **Worldwide Reserves** – 89 million tonnes at the start of 2022
- 2) **Mineable parts out of reserves** – 22 million tonnes.
- 2) **Half of the world's lithium resources** are concentrated in **Latin America (mostly Bolivia, Chile, and Argentina), Australia, and China.**
- 4) **Argentina holds 20 per cent of the world's 98 million tonnes of lithium resources**, second only to Bolivia.
- 5) Argentina is also part of the **"Lithium Triangle"** along with Chile and Bolivia, which together hold more than half of the world's total lithium resources.

Note: The Lithium Triangle is a **region of the Andes that is rich in lithium reserves**

- 3) Argentina has **second-largest lithium resources, third-largest lithium reserves and fourth largest production in the world.**

Why Kashmir and Ladakh are without snow this winter, its implications

Why in the News?

Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh which are the key tourist destinations in India have seen little rainfall or snow this winter, leading to a decline in tourist numbers this season.

What has been observed this year?

- 1) According to data from the India Meteorological Department (IMD), Jammu and Kashmir recorded an **80% rainfall deficit in December** and a **100% deficit (no rain at all) in January** thus far. **Note-** Typically, the region experiences its initial snowfall in the first half of December, extending through most of January.
- 2) The decline in snowfall is **associated with reduced western disturbance events** and rising temperatures, signaling the impact of climate change.
- 3) Scientists propose that the ongoing **El Niño event in the eastern Pacific Ocean** may also contribute to this year's observed conditions.

What are the Western Disturbances and its Impact on India?



Figure 8. Sources- GeeksforGeeks

- 1) These are large **eastward-moving wind systems** carrying rain that originate beyond Afghanistan and Iran.
- 2) They **gather moisture** from regions as distant as the **Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean.**
- 3) These are the **primary source of winter**

precipitation in the Himalayan region.

4) During the post-monsoon and winter months, Western Disturbances serve as the **main rainfall source** for north and northwest India.

5) Alongside the southwest monsoon (June to September) and the northeast monsoon affecting Tamil Nadu and other areas, they constitute the **three major contributors** to India's annual rainfall.

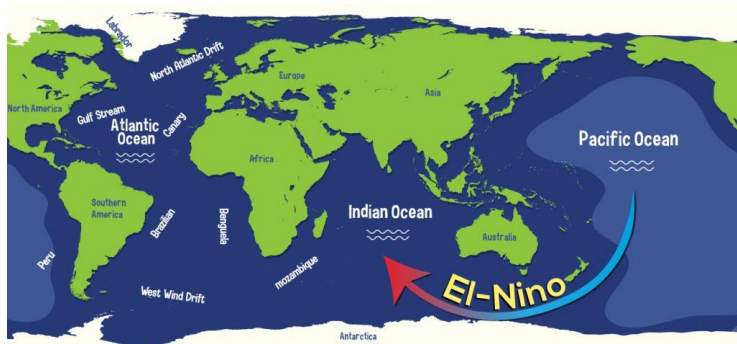


Figure 9. Source- Research & Ranking

What is El Niño and its impact on India ?

1) It is a climate phenomenon characterized by the **periodic warming of sea surface temperatures in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean.**

2) This warming typically occurs every 2 to 7 years and can have significant impacts on weather patterns around the world.

3) El Niño is **part of the larger El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO)** climate

pattern, which also includes its counterpart, La Niña.

What are the implications of Less Snowfall in Kashmir and Ladakh region?

1) **Long-term implications** such as reduced hydroelectricity generation, accelerated glacier melting, and a negative effect on drinking water supply due to diminished snowfall for groundwater recharge.

2) **In the short term**, it can lead to more forest fires, agricultural drought, and a decline in crop production.

Zanskar River

Why in the News?

The Chief of the Naval Staff recently inaugurated the Indian Navy's Chadar Trek expedition at **INS Shivaji**. It takes place on the frozen Zanskar River in Ladakh.

What is the Significance of this Expedition?

1) The expedition embodies the adventurous spirit of the Indian Navy and aims to cultivate a robust and resilient workforce **capable of facing challenges and adverse weather conditions.**

2) The team comprising 14 members would scale the summit at a height of 11,000 ft and **unfurl the National flag and Naval Ensign.**

About Zanskar River



Source- Wikipedia

Specifications	Details
What is it?	1. The Zaskar River is the Left-bank tributary of the Indus River , either surpassing or equaling the main river in volume. 2. It flows entirely within Ladakh , India.
Origin	1. Originating northeast of the Great Himalayan range, it drains both the Himalayas and the Zaskar Range in the Zaskar region. 2. It flows northeast to join the Indus River near Nimo .
Tributaries	The Doda and TsrapLingti Chu(Lungnak river) are the two significant tributaries that join together at Padam village in the upper valley, forming the Zaskar River.

What is INS Shivaji?

- 1) I NS Shivaji is an **Indian naval station located in Lonavala, Maharashtra**. It is located close to the Bhushi Dam.
- 2) It houses the Naval College of Engineering, which trains officers of the Indian Navy and the Indian Coast Guard.
- 3) It was **commissioned in 1945** as HMIS Shivaji

Chancay Port: China's new mega port project in South America

Why in the News?

China has constructed a mega deep-water port in the Chancay city, Peru(a South American country). Operations are scheduled to commence in late 2024.

About Chancay Port

Specifications	Details
Location	1. Chancay town of Peru 2. Chancay is 80 km north of Peru's capital city, Lima .
Objective	To transform Peru into a key commercial and port hub connecting South America and Asia.
Owned by	1. It is primarily owned by the Chinese state-owned company Cosco Shipping , which holds 60% stake in the port. 2. It signifies China's first control of a port in South America .

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Construction	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Its construction commenced in full in 2018.2. It is built as part of China's Belt and Road Initiative investments in Latin America.3. The first phase of Chancay is set to be completed in November 2024
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What is the Significance of this Project?

- 1) It will provide China, with a direct access to the resource-rich region, where, over the past decade, Beijing has surpassed the U.S. as South America's leading trade partner.
- 2) The town of Chancay in Peru will evolve into a regional hub for **copper exports from the Andean nation** and soy from western Brazil. **Currently, these shipments either pass through the Panama Canal** or take a route along the Atlantic before heading to China.
- 3) It will also contribute to strengthening bilateral trade relations between Peru and China. According to the latest annual data, **China currently holds a bilateral trade lead of over \$10 billion.**

Note- Around 150 countries have signed on to the Belt and Road with China, out of which **22 are Latin American countries.**

About Peru



Figure 10. Source- Britannica

- 1) **Location-** Peru is located in western South America, **entirely in the Southern Hemisphere.**
- 2) **Borders-** It shares borders with Ecuador and Colombia to the north, Brazil to the east, Bolivia to the southeast, Chile to the south, and the Pacific Ocean to the west and south.
- 3) **Water bodies:**
 - a. **Lake Titicaca's** endorheic basin and the Amazon basin in this region flow into the Atlantic Ocean.
 - b. The **Ucayali River** is the longest river of Peru.

Soligas and Yeravas tribes

Why in the News?

A newly released book "Forgotten Trails: Foraging Wild Edibles," documents the wild foods gathered by the Soligas and Yeravas tribes from the forests.

About Soligas

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Source- Institute of Public health Bangalore

Aspect	Details
About	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Soligas are an indigenous community residing in the Cauvery Basin and the surrounding hills of peninsular India.2. They are the original inhabitants of Karnataka, primarily residing in the Chamarajanagar and Mandya districts.
Language	They speak Sholaga , which belongs to the Dravidian family.
Religion	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Soliga people adhere to a blend of naturism, animism, and Hindu practices.2. Their primary deity is Madeshwara.
Characteristics	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Honey plays a vital role in the Soliga diet.2. The community continuing to forage a significant portion of their food from the biodiversity-rich Ghats.3. They live in the forest outskirts near Biligiri Rangana Hills and Male Mahadeshwara hills in Chamarajanagar district.4. They have become the first tribal community residing within the core region of an Indian tiger reserve to have their forest rights formally acknowledged by a court of law.5. Soligas eat Silver cockscomb as a healthy leafy green, rich in beta-carotene, folic acid, vitamin E, calcium, and iron.

Note- The scientific community has named a new genus of **wasp (Soliga ecarinata)** in honor of this community.

About Yeravas



Source-Wikipedia

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Aspect	Details
About	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. They are also an indigenous community residing in the Cauvery Basin and the surrounding hills of peninsular India.2. They migrated from the Wayanad district in Kerala and established their settlement in the Kodagu district of the state.
Language	They speak Revula language.
Religion	The Yeravas people practice Hinduism while they also believe in spirits residing in natural elements like trees, mountains, and rivers.
Characteristics	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. They are mostly agricultural laborers in coffee plantations and tea estates.2. Yeravas incorporate a higher quantity of tubers into their diet compared to Soligas.3. Yeravas include mushrooms in their diet during the monsoon season.4. Their settlements are called 'Kunju'.