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STATE PCS CA

(CONSOLIDATION)

HARYANA

AUGUST 2024

Content

Air and Noise Pollution in Faridabad

Why in News?

Recently, **The National Green Tribunal (NGT)** has established a committee to investigate whether unauthorized stone **mining activities in the Aravalis** are resulting in severe **air and noise pollution** in Anangpur village of Faridabad.

Key Points

➢ This action was prompted after **residents near Anangpur filed a petition with the NGT alleging** that the illegal operations pose a **significant health risk**.

➢ The committee is composed of representatives from the **Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM)**, the **Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)**, the **Haryana State Pollution Control Board (HSPCB)**, the District Magistrate (DM) of Faridabad, and the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) of Faridabad.

❍ The **committee's responsibilities** include visiting the site to ascertain the nature of the land, confirming whether necessary approvals were obtained, and identifying the individuals or organizations engaged in the activities.

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)

➢ It is a statutory organisation, was **constituted in 1974** under the **Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.**

➢ CPCB was also entrusted with the powers and functions under the **Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.**

➢ It provides technical assisstance to the **Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate change** under the provisions of the **Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.**

Committee Approval for Political Ads in Gurugram

Why in News?

According to the officials, **political advertisements on cable TV, newspapers and in cinema halls** within Gurugram district can **no longer be broadcast without prior approval** from **the Media Certification and Monitoring Committee (MCMC).**

Key Points

➢ Cable operators and cinema hall owners are prohibited from airing any advertisement without an **MCMC certificate** during the **election period.**

➢ This announcement was made under the directives from the **Election Commission of India.**

Rules for Political Parties Using State-Owned Media

➢ **Allocation of Time on State Media:**

❍ Recognised political parties have been allowed to freely use state-owned television and radio during polls **since the 1998 Lok Sabha elections.**

❍ The ECI decides the time allocation for each **recognised national and state party** before the start of the election campaign.

● National parties collectively receive a minimum of 10 hours on Doordarshan's national channel and 15 hours on regional channels. They also get 10 hours on AIR's national hook-up and 15 hours on regional AIR stations.

● State parties get a minimum of 30 hours on regional Doordarshan channels and AIR radio stations.

➢ Guidelines on Speech Content:

❍ Parties and speakers must submit speech transcripts 3-4 days in advance for approval by respective **All India Radio (AIR) and Doordarshan (DD) authorities.**

❍ ECI Guidelines Prohibit:

● Criticism of other countries;

● Attack on religions or communities;

● Obscene or defamatory content;

● Incitement of violence;

● Contempt of court;

● Aspersions against the President and judiciary;

● Anything affecting national unity and integrity;

● Criticism of individuals by name.

Tiger ST-2303 in Jhabua

Why in News?

Recently, **Tiger ST-2303** has wandered from **Sariska Tiger Reserve** to the **dense forests of Jhabua** in Rewari, Haryana.

Note:

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HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICT

When encounters between humans and wildlife lead to negative results, such as loss of property, livelihoods, and even life

Causes of HWC

- Agricultural Expansion
- Urbanization
- Infrastructure Development
- Climate Change
- Wildlife Populations Growth and Range Expansion

Impacts of HWC

- Grave injuries, Loss of life
- Damage to farms and crops
- ↑ violence against animals

WWF India during 2003-2004 developed the Sonitpur Model by which community members were connected with Assam Forest Dept and given training on how to drive elephants away from crop fields and human habitations safely.

In 2020, the SC upheld Madras HC's decision on the Nilgiris elephant corridor, affirming the right of passage of the animals and closure of resorts in the area.

Data on HWC

- Tigers killed 125 humans between 2019 and 2021
- Death of 329 tigers due to poaching, natural and unnatural causes.
- Elephants killed 1,579 humans in three years
- Death of 307 elephants due to poaching, electrocution, poisoning and train accidents

Advisory for HWC Management
(Standing Committee of the National Board of Wildlife)

- Gram Panchayats empowered to deal with problematic wild animals (WPA 1972)
- Compensation against crop damage due to HWC (PM Fasal Bima Yojna)
- Local/State depts. to adopt early warning systems and create barriers
- Paying a part of ex-gratia as interim relief within 24 hours of the incident to the victim/family

State – Specific Initiatives

- **UP** - Man-animal conflict under **listed disasters** (in State Disaster Response Fund)
- **Uttarakhand - Bio-fencing** carried out by growing various species of plants in areas
- **Odisha** - Casting **seed balls** inside different forests to enrich food stock for wild elephants

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Key Points

➢ Jhabua forest, rich in prey like **nilgai** **and wild boar**, provides the tiger with an abundant food source and dense cover, making it **challenging for forest officials to capture or relocate him.**

   ○ The tiger's presence near villages has **raised safety concerns** and fear of potential **human-wildlife conflict**.

   ○ **Forest officials are coordinating with counterparts in Rajasthan** to safely return the tiger to Sariska.

Note:

- ➤ **The Sariska Tiger Foundation** has **urged the Union Minister of Environment to ensure the tiger's return to its original habitat**, amidst concerns of possible relocation to another reserve.
  - ❍ This incident highlights the **importance of protecting wildlife corridors between Sariska and the Haryana Aravalis** for future tiger migrations.

Sariska Tiger Reserve

- ➤ Sariska Tiger Reserve is **located in Aravali hills** and forms a **part of the Alwar District of Rajasthan.**
- ➤ It was declared as a **wildlife sanctuary in 1955** and was **declared** as a **tiger reserve** later in **1978**, making it a part of India's **Project Tiger.**
- ➤ It **encompasses ruined temples, forts, pavilions and a palace.**
  - ❍ **Kankarwadi Fort** is located in the centre of the reserve.
  - ❍ It is said that **Mughal emperor Aurangzeb had imprisoned his brother Dara Shikoh at this fort** in the struggle for succession to the throne.

Haryana Plan for Reduction in Farm Fires

Why in News?

Recently, The **government of Haryana** has developed a framework to **make use of all the leftover stubble** after the harvesting of **paddy crops.**

- ➤ This initiative aims to **reduce the occurrence of farm fires,** which contribute to the hazardous **air pollution** in northern India during the onset of winter every year.

Key Points

- ➤ The agriculture department has estimated that **38.8 lakh acres of farmland across Haryana will be utilized for the cultivation of paddy** in 2024. These crops are projected to **generate 81 lakh metric tonnes (LMT) of residues.**
  - ❍ The residue, or straw, that remains after farmers harvest paddy is what they end up burning to quickly clear the land for another round of sowing.
- ➤ The state government is going to introduce **Crop Residue Management scheme** which involves:
  - ❍ **In-situ stubble management** involves **chopping and mixing stubble** into the soil **as compost.** To

support this, the **government will provide 90,000 machines**, including slashers, and **offer farmers Rs 1,000 per acre as an operational charge.**
- ❍ **Ex-situ management** incentivizes the **use of stubble in industries**, such as **biomass** for **biofuels** or raw material for packaging and cardboard units. This **creates an economic alternative to stubble burning**, as industries purchase crop residues from farmers.
  - ● The government's plan involves distributing 1,405 baler machines to districts, which will then be provided to farmers.
- ➤ This is aimed at making the **collection and storage of crop residues more convenient.** Additionally, officials are working on establishing partnerships with industries to purchase these crop residues.

Stubble Burning

- ➤ Stubble (parali) burning is a **method of removing paddy crop residues** from the field to sow wheat from the last week of September to November, coinciding with the withdrawal of **southwest monsoon.**
- ➤ Stubble burning is **a process of setting on fire the straw stubble**, left after the harvesting of grains, like paddy, wheat, etc. It is usually required in areas that use the combined harvesting method which leaves crop residue behind.
- ➤ It is a **common practice in October and November across North West India**, but primarily in Punjab, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh.

District Isolation Facilities for Mpox

Why in News?

Recently, The **Haryana health department** instructed all districts to be highly vigilant for **Mpox**. They stressed the significance of **educating healthcare workers and carrying out screening** of suspected **measles cases.**

Key Points

- ➤ The screening is to be conducted through focused surveillance for locations identified by the **National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO)** for **men who have sex with men and female sex workers,** as well as through hospital-based surveillance in dermatology clinics, STD clinics, medicine, and pediatrics outpatient departments.

Note:

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➢ The department has advised all districts to identify isolation facilities and appoint nodal officers for effective patient management.

➢ All hospitals have been directed to remain alert, and if they encounter any suspected cases, they are to notify <u>the integrated disease surveillance programme (IDSP) unit.</u>

  ❍ The **incubation period for those infected is typically 7 to 14 days,** but it can **also range from 5 to 21 days,** and the **patient is usually contagious during this period.**

Mpox

➢ Mpox, also known as monkeypox, is a <u>**DNA virus**</u>. It belongs to the *family Poxviridae*, which consists of large, **double-stranded DNA** viruses.

  ❍ The virus was **first identified in monkeys in 1958** but has since been found to **infect humans as well.**

➢ **Transmission:** Mpox is primarily transmitted to humans **from animals**, particularly **rodents and primates**, through direct contact or through contaminated objects.

➢ **Symptoms:** Mpox infection in humans typically presents with **fever, headache, muscle aches,** and a characteristic rash that progresses from macules to papules to vesicles and pustules.

➢ **Vaccination:** While a vaccine for mpox exists, its **availability and effectiveness are limited,** highlighting the need for improved prevention and control measures.

The National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO)

➢ It is a **division of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** that provides **leadership to <u>HIV/AIDS</u> control programme in India** through **35 HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Societies.**

➢ NACO has played a **very big role in significantly reducing the prevalence of HIV/AIDS in the country** and that too faster than the global rates.

Observers for Haryana Assembly Elections

Why in News?

According to the sources, <u>**The Election Commission of India**</u> would **deploy over 400 observers** for the **Assembly elections in Haryana** and Jammu and Kashmir.

Key Points

➢ The poll body deploys observers under <u>**Section 20B of the Representation of the People Act, 1951**</u> and **plenary powers of <u>the Constitution</u>.**

➢ In a meeting, the Election Commissioner emphasised that the officials should observe the complete election ecosystem for <u>**free and fair polls**</u> and asserted that the role of observers becomes all the more critical in these elections.

  ❍ The observers were strictly directed to remain accessible to all parties, candidates and voters for timely redressal of their grievances.

Section 20B in The Representation of the People Act, 1951

➢ The Election Commission may **nominate a Government officer as an Observer** to **monitor the conduct of elections in a constituency** or group of constituencies and perform other functions entrusted by the Commission.

➢ The Observer **shall have the power to direct the <u>returning officer</u>** to **stop the counting of votes or not to declare the result** if in the observer's opinion booth capturing has taken place at a large number of polling stations or ballot papers are unlawfully taken, destroyed, lost, or tampered with to such an extent that the result of the poll cannot be ascertained.

➢ Then the Observer shall r**eport the matter to <u>the Election Commission.</u>**

Election Commission of India

➢ It is an autonomous constitutional authority responsible for administering Union and State election processes in India.

  ❍ It was established in accordance with the Constitution on **25th January 1950 (celebrated as <u>National Voters' Day</u>).** The secretariat of the commission is in New Delhi.

➢ The body administers elections to the <u>**Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha**</u>, and <u>**State Legislative Assemblies**</u> in India, and the offices of the <u>**President and Vice President**</u> in the country.

➢ It is **not concerned with the elections to <u>panchayats</u> and <u>municipalities</u>** in the states. For this, the Constitution of India provides for a separate <u>**State Election Commission.**</u>

Note:

Recommendation for Bifurcation of SC Quota in Haryana

Why in News?

Recently, The **Haryana State Commission for Scheduled Castes** has recommended that **one-half of the 20% quota reserved for the Scheduled Castes in government jobs** will be **set aside for candidates from deprived Scheduled Castes.**

➢ It comprises **36 castes** such as Balmikis, Dhanaks, Khatik and Mazhabi Sikhs.

Key Points

➢ The commission conducted a data analysis to ascertain the **inadequacy of representation of Scheduled Castes (SCs) in public employment** because of their backwardness.

➢ The commission's report to the council of ministers **recommends that if suitable candidates from deprived Scheduled Castes are unavailable, candidates from other Scheduled Castes,** including Chamars, Jatav, Mochi, Raigars, Ramdasias, and Ravidasisas, **may be considered to fill vacant posts.**

　❍ It also suggests reserving half of the **20% Scheduled Caste quota for candidates from other Scheduled Castes.**

　❍ If **candidates from these groups are unavailable,** candidates from **deprived Scheduled Castes may be considered.**

　❍ The report emphasizes that the **order of seniority will be based on a common merit list** without the need for separate points within the existing system.

➢ According to **The Supreme Court,** the **state can sub-classify SCs** based on factors such as inadequate representation of certain castes.

　❍ However, it stipulated that the **state must demonstrate that the inadequate representation of a caste or group is due to its backwardness**, and must gather data on the inadequacy of representation in the state's services, as it is used as an indicator of backwardness.

Election Commission Halts Haryana Recruitment Results

Why in News?

The **Election Commission of India (ECI)** has halted the announcement of results for ongoing recruitment processes in Haryana until the completion of the **Assembly elections**.

Key Points

➢ **Recruitment Details:** The affected recruitments include **vacancies for Constables** in the Haryana Police, **posts of Trained Graduate Teachers (TGT)** and **Physical Training Instructors (PTI)** by the **Haryana Staff Selection Commission (HSSC),** and various posts by the **Haryana Public Service Commission (HPSC)**.

➢ **Reason for Halt:** This decision was made following a complaint from the opposition party alleging violations of the **Model Code of Conduct (MCC)**.

➢ **Commission's Findings:** The ECI determined that there was no violation of the **MCC** in the recruitment processes, as they were initiated before the election dates were declared.

　❍ However, to maintain fairness and a level playing field, the results will not be released until the election process is concluded.

Haryana Staff Selection Commission (HSSC)

➢ The **Haryana Staff Selection Commission** is a **government body** responsible for recruiting staff for **Group B, C, and D positions** across various departments and subordinate offices within the **Government of Haryana**.

Election Commission of India

➢ **About:**

　❍ The **Election Commission of India (ECI)** is an autonomous constitutional authority responsible for administering Union and State election processes in India.

　　● It was established in accordance with the Constitution on 25th January 1950 (celebrated as National Voters' Day). The secretariat of the commission is in New Delhi.

　❍ The body administers elections to the **Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha,** and **State Legislative Assemblies** in India, and the offices of the **President** and **Vice President** in the country.

Note:

➤

➤ **Constitutional Provisions:**
  ❍ **Part XV (Article 324-329):** It deals with elections and establishes a commission for these matters.

Model Code of Conduct (MCC)

➤ The **MCC** is a consensus document. The political parties have themselves agreed to keep their conduct during elections in check and to work within the Code.

➤ It helps the **EC in keeping with the mandate it has been given under Article 324** of the Constitution, which gives it the power to supervise and conduct free and fair elections to the Parliament and State Legislatures.

➤ The MCC is **operational from the date on which the election schedule is announced** until the date of the result announcement.

➤ The government cannot announce any financial grants, promise construction of roads or other facilities, and **make any ad hoc appointments in government or public undertaking during the time the Code is in force**.

Haryana Approves SC Sub-Classification

Why in News?

The **Haryana council of ministers** accepted the recommendations of the **state commission for Scheduled Castes** to create **subclassification of scheduled castes (SC).**

Key Points

➤ **Objective:** The **sub-classification** intends to ensure more **equitable distribution of benefits** and **opportunities**, especially in educational and employment sectors, by recognizing the distinct needs of different SC communities.

➤ **Panel Recommendation:** The commission suggested creating a new category of **SCs** to provide better representation and assistance to the more disadvantaged sections within the SC community.

  ❍ Commission recommended subclassification be done for the purpose of reservation in government

jobs into two categories:
  ● **Deprived Scheduled Castes (DSC),** comprising **36 castes** such as Balmikis, Dhanaks, Mazhabi Sikhs, Khatik,
  ● **Other Scheduled Castes (OSC),** comprising castes such as Chamar, Jatia Chamar, Rehgar, Raigar, Ramdasi, Ravidasi, Jatav, Mochi, Ramdasia.

➤ **Implementation:** The state government plans to implement this sub-classification through amendments in existing policies and schemes to reflect the new categories and ensure targeted support.

➤ **Potential Impact:** This move is expected to improve the effectiveness of affirmative action policies by addressing the specific needs of different SC groups and enhancing their socio-economic status.

Aravalis of Haryana Get Protected Forest Tag
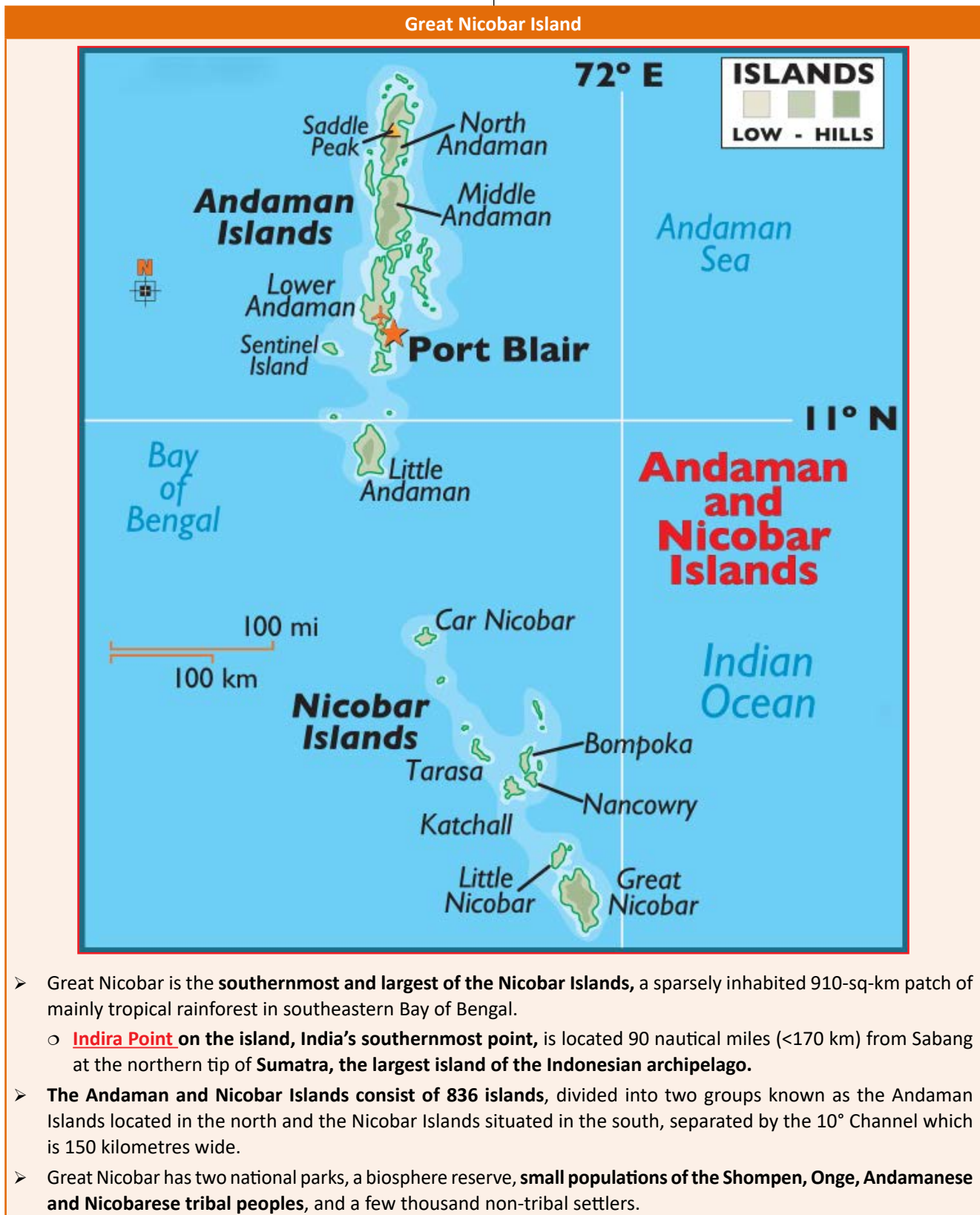
Why in News?

Recently, **Haryana** has designated 24,353 hectares of **Aravali land** **in five of its districts** as protected forest, under the **compensatory afforestation swap** intended to offset the **destruction of tropical rainforests** in **Great Nicobar**.

Key Points

➤ Though the goal was 26,000 hectares, Haryana was able to secure 24,353 hectares. For the remaining 1,647 hectares, the **Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC)** is in discussions with the government of Madhya Pradesh.

➤ In November 2022, MoEFCC gave its approval, paving the way for a **colossal project in Great Nicobar.**

  ❍ This **project involves constructing an international airport, a shipping port, a power plant, and a township,** spanning an area of 160 square kilometers.

  ❍ More than 80% of this land is part of a pristine tropical forest, resulting in the **loss of almost a million trees.**

  ❍ In February 2023, it was decided that the **compensatory afforestation** for this **forest destruction** in an island off India's mainland will be **carried out in the Aravalis of Haryana.**

  ❍ The government of Haryana, which submitted its plan for compensatory afforestation will receive **Rs 3,000 crore to revive the Aravalis** in five of its districts.

    ● The five districts are - **Gurgaon, Nuh, Rewari,**

Note:

Mahendergarh and Charkhi Dadri.

Great Nicobar Island

➢ Great Nicobar is the **southernmost and largest of the Nicobar Islands,** a sparsely inhabited 910-sq-km patch of mainly tropical rainforest in southeastern Bay of Bengal.

  ○ **Indira Point** **on the island, India's southernmost point,** is located 90 nautical miles (<170 km) from Sabang at the northern tip of **Sumatra, the largest island of the Indonesian archipelago.**

➢ **The Andaman and Nicobar Islands consist of 836 islands**, divided into two groups known as the Andaman Islands located in the north and the Nicobar Islands situated in the south, separated by the 10° Channel which is 150 kilometres wide.

➢ Great Nicobar has two national parks, a biosphere reserve, **small populations of the Shompen, Onge, Andamanese and Nicobarese tribal peoples**, and a few thousand non-tribal settlers.

Note:

Haryana Launches Schemes for Youth

Why in News?

Recently, The **Haryana Chief Minister** participated in an **International Youth Day** programme organised by the **Youth Empowerment and Entrepreneurship Department.**

➤ He launched the **Drone Didi Yojana**, **Contractor Saksham Yuva Yojana** and the **IT Saksham Yuva Yojana.**

Key Points

➤ Haryana has helped over one lakh youth in skill development under the **Haryana Kaushal Vikas Mission** and provided 1.44 lakh jobs to the youth.

➤ Contractor Saksham Yuva Yojanaz:
  ○ The government will **provide skill training to 10,000 engineering diploma and degree holders for three months** so that they can become self-dependent.
  ○ The government will also provide these youth with **Rs 3 lakh interest-free loan for one year.**
  ○ The youth will be able to apply for government contracts of up to the value of **Rs 25 lakh of the state Panchayati Raj Department.**

➤ IT Saksham Yuva Yojana:
  ○ Through this scheme the state government will **provide IT training to graduate and postgraduate youth** to help them make a career in the sector.
  ○ The youth will be provided training in **coding, Java language, web designing, networking and digital marketing, among others.**

➤ Drone Didi Yojana:
  ○ Under this scheme, the state government will **provide training to 5,000 young women in drone operation and management in 2024-25.**
  ○ The government will **provide them 80% of the cost of drones** and other equipment.

➤ Unemployment grant hiked:
  ○ The Chief Minister announced an i**ncrease in the unemployment allowance for Class XII pass youth from Rs 900 per month to Rs 1,200 from 1st August, 2024.**
  ○ The **unemployment grant for the graduate youth** has been **increased to Rs 2,000 per month and for the postgraduate youth to Rs 3,500 per month.**

○ The government will **provide such grants to 2.61 lakh youth.**

Haryana Skill Development Mission (HSDM)
➤ It was **established in May 2015** by the State Government.
➤ Its aim is to **empower youth to take part in the economic and all around growth** of Haryana and India.
➤ It is a single point of contact within the Government to **formulate and steer skill development schemes across the Department.**
➤ HSDM acts as an **integrated mission which combines the efforts of various State Departments in achieving the skill development** target of the State.

Heavy Rain Forecasts

Why in News?

Recently, The **India Meteorological Department (IMD)** has issued an **orange alert** for **Chandigarh, Haryana, and Punjab** and forecast heavy to very heavy rain in isolated areas.

Key Points

➤ **Colour- Coded Weather Warning** is issued by the IMD whose objective is to alert people ahead of severe or hazardous weather which has the potential to cause damage, widespread disruption or danger to life.

➤ Warnings are updated daily.

➤ The IMD uses 4 colour codes are:
  ○ **Green (All is well): No advisory** is issued.
  ○ **Yellow (Be Aware):** Yellow indicates **severely bad weather** spanning across several days. It also suggests that the weather could change for the worse, causing disruption in day-to-day activities.
  ○ **Orange/Amber (Be prepared):** The orange alert is issued as a warning of **extremely bad weather** with the potential of disruption in commute with road and rail closures, and interruption of power supply.
  ○ **Red (Take Action):** When the extremely bad weather conditions are certainly going to **disrupt travel and power** and have significant risk to life, the red alert is issued.

➤ These alerts are **universal in nature** and are also issued during floods, depending on the amount of water rising above land/in a river as a result of **torrential rainfall**.

Note:

○ For instance, when the water in a river is 'above normal' level, or between the 'warning' and 'danger' levels, a yellow alert is issued.

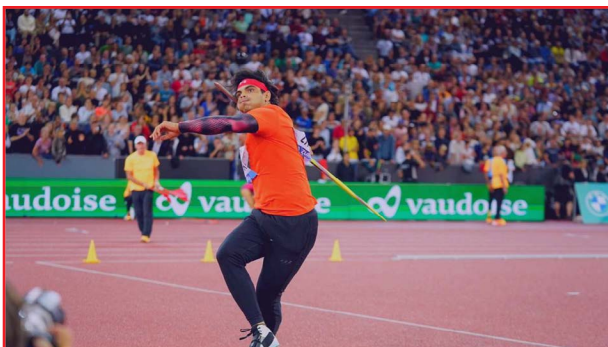| India Meteorological Department (IMD) |
| --- |
| ➤ **IMD** was established in **1875**. It is the **National Meteorological Service** of the country and the principal government agency in all matters relating to meteorology and allied subjects. |
| ○ It works as an agency of the **Ministry of Earth Sciences** of the Government of India. |
| ➤ It is headquartered in **New Delhi.** |
| ➤ IMD is also one of the **six Regional Specialized Meteorological Centres** of the <u>World Meteorological Organization.</u> |

Neeraj Chopra Wins Silver at Paris Olympics

Why in News?

Neeraj Chopra, India's renowned **javelin thrower**, secured a **silver medal** at the <u>Paris Olympics 2024.</u>

Key Points

➤ Neeraj's **throw of 89.45m** placed him second on the podium.

    ○ **Gold medal was claimed by Pakistan's Arshad Nadeem** with a throw of 92.97m, setting a new Olympic record.

➤ Neeraj became only the **third Indian athlete, and the first in track and field, to win consecutive individual Olympic medals.**

    ○ Wrestler **Sushil Kumar** (2008 and 2012) and shuttler **PV Sindhu** (2016 and 2021) are the other Indians who have accomplished this achievement.

Haryana Plans Grand Welcome for Vinesh Phogat

Why in News?

According to the sources, the **Haryana government plans a grand welcome** for **wrestler Vinesh Phogat** despite her <u>Paris Olympics</u> finals disqualification.
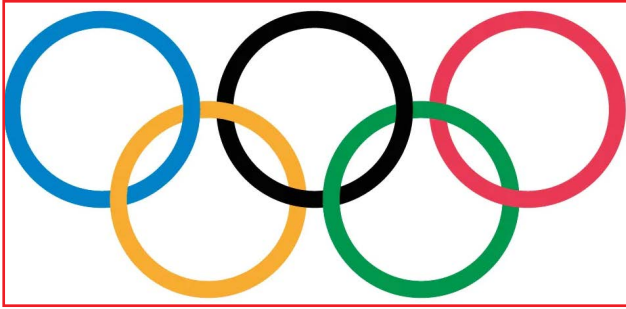
Key Points

➤ The Chief Minister of Haryana announced that Phogat, who became the **first Indian woman to qualify for an Olympic wrestling final**, would be **honoured as a medalist.**

    ○ **Haryana** government **offers Rs. 6 crore to gold medalists, Rs 4 crore to silver medallists and Rs 2.5 crore to bronze medal** winners in the Olympic games.

➤ Vinesh Phogat was **competing in the 50-kg category and missed the cut by 100 grams** during the weigh-in, leading to her disqualification.

    ○ She has also **announced retirement from wrestling.**

Olympics
➤ **About:**
○ The **Olympics are an international sporting event that takes place every four years.**
● The goals of the Olympics are to **cultivate human beings through sport and contribute to world peace.**
○ The Olympics include: **Summer Games, Winter Games, Youth Olympics Games.**
➤ **History and Origin:**
○ Olympics trace their roots back around **3,000 years to Ancient Greece's Peloponnese region.**
○ While the precise starting date remains uncertain, **776 BC is a commonly mentioned year in historical records.**
● The first modern Olympics were held in **Athens, Greece in 1896** based on the **plan of Pierre de Coubertin.**
➤ Olympic Rings:
○ The Olympic symbol consists of **five interlocking rings of different colors (blue, yellow, black, green, and red)** on a white background.
○ These rings represent the **five continents of the world** and symbolize the **unity and diversity of nations through sports.**

Note:

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Vinesh Phogat Disqualification at Paris Olympics

Why in News?

Recently, **Vinesh Phogat from haryana** was disqualified at the **Paris Olympics**. The **50 kg wrestler** failed to make a crucial second weight to be able to take part in the **gold medal bout.**

Key Points

➤ The **International Olympic Committee (IOC)** disqualified her for being overweight on the day of the match, as per rules.

❍ The wrestler, who was eyeing a gold medal, was disqualified, which meant she **cannot get even a silver medal that the semi-final win ensured.**

❍ She **won the semi-final bout by defeating Cuba's Yusneylis Guzman Lopez** with a 5-0 score.

❍ She has appealed to the **Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS)** over the issue.

International Olympic Committee (IOC)

➤ The IOC is the **guardian of the Olympic Games, established in June 1894**. It is a **not-for-profit independent international organisation.**

➤ It is based in **Lausanne, Switzerland, the Olympic Capital.**

The Court of Arbitration for Sport

➤ It is an **international quasi-judicial body** established to settle disputes related to sport through arbitration.

➤ Its **headquarters are in Lausanne (Switzerland)** and its **courts are located in New York City, Sydney and Lausanne.**

➤ Temporary courts are established in current Olympic host cities.

Amendments in Haryana Sikh Gurdwaras (Management) Act, 2014

Why in News?

The **Haryana Council of Ministers** is set to approve an **Ordinance** to amend the **Haryana Sikh Gurdwaras (Management) Act, 2014**.

Key Points

➤ **The objective of Haryana Sikh Gurdwaras (Management) Act, 2014** was to provide a legal procedure by which the gurdwaras were brought under the exclusive control of the **Sikhs of Haryana** for their **proper use, administration, control** and **financial management reforms.**

❍ This act created a **separate juristic entity** for the management of the **historical gurdwaras** in Haryana, gurdwaras with **income both over and under ₹20 lakh.**

➤ **Proposed Amendments:**

❍ **Judicial Appointments:** The proposed amendment includes provisions for appointing a **High Court judge** as the chairman of the Haryana Sikh Gurdwara Judicial Commission.

● If a High Court judge is not appointed, a District Judge or a senior member of the commission will be considered.

❍ **Revision of Pension / Family Pension:** The Haryana Government is also expected to deal with the issue of **revision of pension/family pension** for retired **judicial officers of the Haryana government** as per the **Second National Judicial Pay Commission (SNJPC)**.

Second National Judicial Pay Commission

➤ The Commission was constituted in **2017** pursuant to the order of the **Supreme Court** in **All India Judges Association case,** under **Article 32 (Constitutional Remedies)** of the Constitution.

➤ It is headed by **former Judge of Supreme Court Justice P. Venkatrama Reddi.**

➤ Few of the objectives of the Commission are:

❍ To evolve the principles governing the pay structure and emoluments of Judicial Officers belonging to the Subordinate Judiciary all over the country.

Note:

- To examine the present structure of emoluments and conditions of services of Judicial Officers in the States and Union Territories and to make suitable recommendations including post-retirement benefits such as pension, etc.

- To consider and recommend such interim relief as the Commission considers just and proper to all categories of Judicial Officers.

- To make recommendations regarding setting up of a permanent mechanism to review the pay and service conditions of members of Subordinate Judiciary periodically by an independent Commission.

➢ The Supreme Court observed that the Commission may consider, if necessary, sending reports on any of the matters as and when recommendations are finalised.

➢ The **Commission has been empowered to devise its own procedure** and formulate the modalities necessary for accomplishing the task.

Haryana: First State to Buy all Crops from Farmers at MSP

Why in News?

Recently, **Haryana Chief Minister** announced the **procurement of all crops** in the state at the **Minimum Support Price (MSP)**, thus becoming the **first in the country** to procure all crops at MSP.

Key Points

➢ The Chief Minister also announced the **waiving of Rs 133 crore** in **outstanding canal water irrigation charges.**

- The payment of pending **compensation of Rs 137 crore** within a week to farmers who suffered **crop damage** because of **natural calamity** in Rohtak, Nuh, Fatehabad and Sirsa before 2023 was also announced.

Minimum Support Price (MSP)

➢ MSP is the **guaranteed amount paid to farmers** when the **government buys their produce.**

➢ MSP is based on the recommendations of the **Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)**, which considers **various factors such as cost of production, demand and supply,** market price trends, inter-crop price parity, etc.

- CACP is an attached office of the **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**. It came into existence in January 1965.

➢ The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)** chaired by the Prime Minister of India takes the **final decision (approve) on the level of MSPs.**

➢ The MSP is aimed at ensuring **remunerative prices to growers for their produce** and encouraging **Crop Diversification.**

Note:

Key Points   **Details**

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Summary

Key Points

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Summary