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JHARKHAND

**JANUARY
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Study to Revive Bison Population

Why in News?

Recently, the **Jharkhand** Forest Department launched a study to revive the declining population of **Bison**, commonly known as Gaur, at **Palamu Tiger Reserve (PTR)**.

Key Points

- **Bison Population Status in Jharkhand:**
 - Bison, an important food source for big cats, has **gone extinct across Jharkhand**, except in the Palamu Tiger Reserve (PTR).
 - The **current bison population in PTR is between 50 and 70**, a significant decline from the 1970s, when it stood at around 150.
- **Reasons for Decline:**
 - Major factors include **poaching, infections, and habitat disturbances** caused by local cattle.
 - Domestic cattle, numbering over 1.5 lakh, occupy the bison's habitat, consuming their food and spreading infections like **mouth and foot disease**.
- **Current Conservation Efforts:**
 - The PTR authority has **initiated a study to assess factors affecting bison survival**, including habitat improvement and grass species preferences.
 - A comprehensive revival plan will be created after the study.
 - To curb the spread of diseases, a **vaccination drive is underway to vaccinate 1.5 lakh domestic cattle** from 190 surrounding villages.
 - Grassland improvement and anti-poaching measures are also being strengthened.
- **Core and Buffer Zone Management:**
 - PTR spans 1,129.93 sq km, with 414.08 sq km designated as core (critical **tiger** habitat) and 715.85 sq km as a buffer zone.
 - **Betla National Park** occupies 226.32 sq km of PTR, with 53 sq km in the buffer zone open to tourists.
 - Efforts are underway to **relocate eight of the 34 villages within PTR limits to protect core habitats**.

The Bison

➤ About:

- The **Indian Bison or Gaur (Bos gaurus)** is the **tallest species of wild cattle found in India and largest extant bovine**.
- There are about **13,000 to 30,000 gaurs in the world** with approximately **85% of the population present in India**.
 - The **first-ever population estimation exercise** of the Indian gaur carried out in **the Nilgiris Forest Division** in February 2020 estimated around **2,000 Indian gaurs to be inhabiting the division**.



➤ Geography:

- It is native to **South and Southeast Asia**.
- In **India**, they are very much **prevalent in the Western Ghats**.
 - They are primarily found in **Nagarhole National Park, Bandipur National Park, Masinagudi National Park and Biligirirangana Hills (BR Hills)**.
- It is also found in **Burma and Thailand**.

➤ Habitat:

- They prefer **evergreen forests and moist deciduous forests**.
- They are **not found in the Himalayas** with an altitude greater than 6,000 ft.

➤ Conservation Status:

- **Vulnerable in IUCN Red List**.
- Included in the **Schedule I of the Wild Life Protection Act, 1972**.

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Note:

'5G Use Case Test Lab' Inaugurated in Ranchi

Why in News?

Recently, the Union Minister for Coal and Mines inaugurated the '[5G Use Case Test Lab](#)' at the [Central Mine Planning and Design Institute \(CMPDI\)](#) in Ranchi, Jharkhand.

- The facility aims to **advance the coal sector's digital transformation and technological capabilities.**

Key Points

- **Sustainable Art Showcase:**
 - The minister unveiled a '**Replica of CMPDI services**' sculpture made from industrial scrap material, showcasing CMPDI's services in geomatics, exploration, and environmental monitoring.
 - The installation emphasizes **recycling and sustainable practices** in art.
 - The Minister **also launched CMPDI's new corporate logo.**
- **5G Use Case Lab:**
 - Features:
 - The lab serves as a **scaled-down representation** of an [Industry 5G Private Network](#), tailored for the coal sector.
 - **Capabilities:**
 - Integrates **5G Radio, Core technologies, Edge/Cloud IT/OT applications, and 5G-enabled devices.**
 - Supports voice, video, and data communication applications.
 - Includes IIoT sensors for vehicle management and other applications.
 - **Objectives:**
 - Develop 5G use cases such as **predictive maintenance, smart mining, and real-time monitoring.**
 - Create a replicable model of a 5G private network for real-world applications.
 - **Future Applications:**
 - Implement advanced technologies like **digital twins, Automated Guided Vehicles (AGVs), and AR/VR for operational optimization.**

➤ Benefits to the Coal Industry:

- Reliable, high-speed, low-latency connectivity to support **mission-critical operations.**
- Real-time data exchange for better decision-making and streamlined processes.
- The private captive network ensures data generated during operations remains with [Coal India Limited \(CIL\).](#)
- Adoption of 5G will improve efficiency and safety in mining operations.

Coal India Limited

➤ About:

- CIL is a **state-owned coal mining corporation in India**, responsible for producing and managing coal resources in the country.
 - It was founded in **1975 and is the world's largest coal producer.**

➤ Organisational Structure:

- CIL is classified as a '[Maharatna](#)' **public sector enterprise** and operates through 8 subsidiaries like Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL), Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL).
- **Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL)** is CIL's largest coal-producing subsidiary.

➤ Strategic Importance:

- Over half of India's **installed power capacity is coal-based**, with CIL supplying around 78% of the country's total coal production.
- Coal also accounts for **40% of India's primary commercial energy needs.**

➤ Mining Capacity:

- Across **eight Indian states**, CIL operates in **84 mining areas**, and manages a total of **313 active mines.**

Panchayat Se Parliament 2.0

Why in News?

Recently, [Lok Sabha Speaker](#) Om Birla inaugurated "[Panchayat Se Parliament 2.0](#)" aiming to provide women representatives from Panchayati Raj institutions across the country with insights into [the Constitution](#) and parliamentary procedures.

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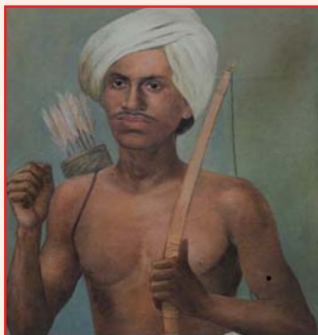
- The event commemorates the 150th birth anniversary of **tribal icon Birsa Munda**.

Key Points

- **Aim:**
 - The initiative aims to empower these elected women representatives from **Panchayati Raj institutions** by enhancing their knowledge of **constitutional provisions, parliamentary procedures, and governance**, fostering effective leadership.
 - The programme brings together 502 **elected women representatives from Scheduled Tribes** across 22 States and Union Territories, ensuring inclusivity and diversity.
- **Workshops and Sessions:**
 - The programme includes **interactive workshops and sessions** moderated by experts and **Members of Parliament**.
 - It is organised by **National Commission for Women (NCW)** and **Lok Sabha Secretariat**, in collaboration with the **Ministry of Tribal Affairs**.
- **Guided Tours:**
 - Participants embarked on guided tours of the **New Parliament House, Samvidhan Sadan, Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya, and Rashtrapati Bhavan** to gain a deeper understanding of India's legislative processes and **democratic institutions**.

Birsa Munda

- He was **born on 15th November 1875**. He belonged to **the Munda tribe**.



- He spearheaded an **Indian tribal religious Millenarian movement** during British rule in the **late 19th century** across the **tribal belt of modern-day Jharkhand and Bihar**.
- He led **the Munda Rebellion (Ulgulan)**, and his birth anniversary is celebrated as **Janjatiya Gaurav Divas**.

First Instalment of Mainiya Samman Yojana

Why in News?

During an event in Ranchi, **Jharkhand Chief Minister transferred Rs 11,415.44 crore to 56.62 lakh women** under the **'Mukhyamantri Mainiya Samman Yojana,'** with each receiving **Rs 2,500** through **direct benefit transfer (DBT)**.

Key Points

- **Empowering Women Beneficiaries:**
 - Addressing a **gathering of women from all 24 districts**, the CM emphasized **empowering women to achieve their dreams** independently.
 - The scheme's **potential to enable women** to provide better education, health facilities, and meet their day-to-day needs was highlighted.
 - He encouraged women to **use the funds to buy nutritious food**, including meat and fish, to combat **anemia**.
 - The **money could also help women purchase** gas cylinders, clothing for festivals, and school supplies for children, reducing reliance on government food grains.

Mukhyamantri Mainiya Samman Yojana

- **Launched in August 2024**, it provides **Rs 1,000 monthly to women aged 21-50** through **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)**.
- Ahead of Assembly polls, the **financial assistance was increased to Rs 2,500** due to its popularity.



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Note:

Key Points

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