

## Important Facts for Prelims (14th September 2018)

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## Swadesh Darshan Scheme

- First tribal tourism circuit project under Swadesh Darshan Scheme has been inaugurated in **Chhattisgarh**. It covers 13 sites in Chhattisgarh: Jashpur, Kunkuri, Mainpat, Kamleshpur, Maheshpur, Kurdar, Sarodadadar, Gangrel, Kondagaon, Nathiya Nawagaon, Jagdalpur, Chitrakoot and Tirthgarh.
- Swadesh Darshan scheme is one of the flagship schemes of the **Ministry of tourism** launched in **2014-15**, for development of thematic circuits in the country in a planned and prioritised manner.
- Aim of the scheme is to develop theme-based tourist circuits on the principles of high tourist value, competitiveness and sustainability in an integrated manner to enrich tourist experience and enhance employment opportunities.
- Under the scheme, **fifteen thematic circuits have been identified** Buddhist Circuit, Coastal Circuit, Desert Circuit, Eco Circuit, Heritage Circuit, Himalayan Circuit, Krishna Circuit, North East Circuit, Ramayana Circuit, Rural Circuit, Spiritual Circuit, Sufi Circuit, Tirthankar Circuit, **Tribal Circuit**, Wildlife Circuit.

## Exercise KAKADU

- Indian Naval Ship Sahyadri participated in Exercise KAKADU 2018.
- Exercise KAKADU started in 1993, is a multilateral regional maritime engagement exercise **hosted by the Royal Australian Navy (RAN)** and supported by the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF). The exercise is held biennially in Darwin and the Northern Australian Exercise Areas (NAXA).
- It aims to foster and strengthen effective security and humanitarian partnerships across the **Indo-Pacific region** through a series of training and engagement activities.

Indian Navy's participation provides it an excellent opportunity to engage with regional
partners and undertake multinational maritime activities ranging from constabulary
operations to high-end maritime warfare in a combined environment, aimed at
enhancing interoperability and development of common understanding of procedures
for maritime operations.