



Rapid Fire Current Affairs

NGT Imposed Fines on States and UTs

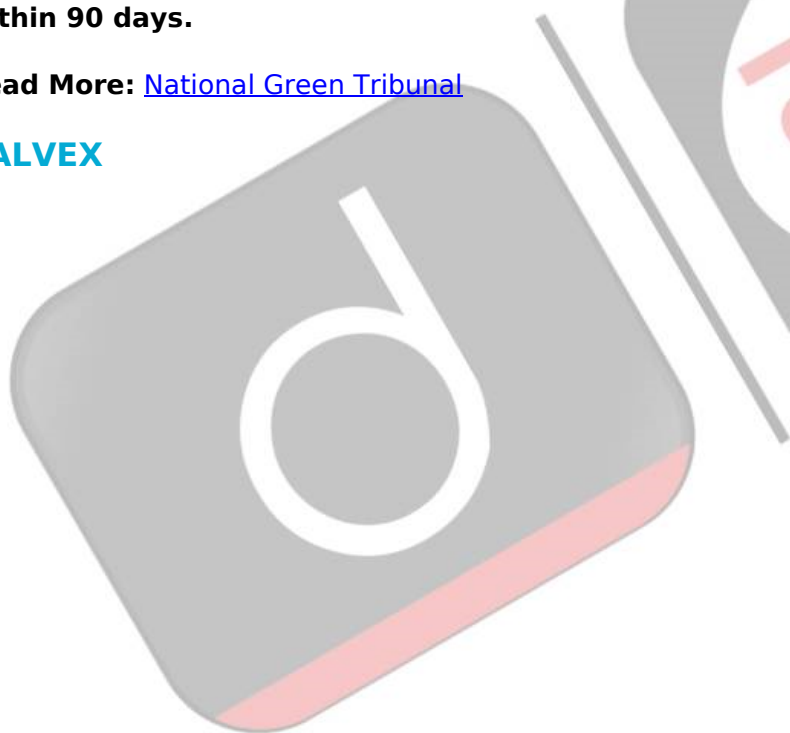
Recently, the **National Green Tribunal (NGT)** has imposed fines of about **Rs 80,000 crore on States and UTs** for non-compliance of sewage treatment and garbage disposal rules and for violating orders. The highest penalty has been imposed on **Tamil Nadu** followed by **Maharashtra, MP and UP**.

NGT is a specialised body set up under the **NGT Act, 2010** for effective and expeditious disposal of cases relating to **environmental protection and conservation of forests and other natural resources**. After Australia and New Zealand, **India became the 3rd country in the world to set up a specialised environmental tribunal**.

It has **five places of sittings; New Delhi is the principal place of sitting**. Decisions of the NGT are binding. It has the power to review its own decisions which can later be **challenged before the SC within 90 days**.

Read More: [National Green Tribunal](#)

SALVEX





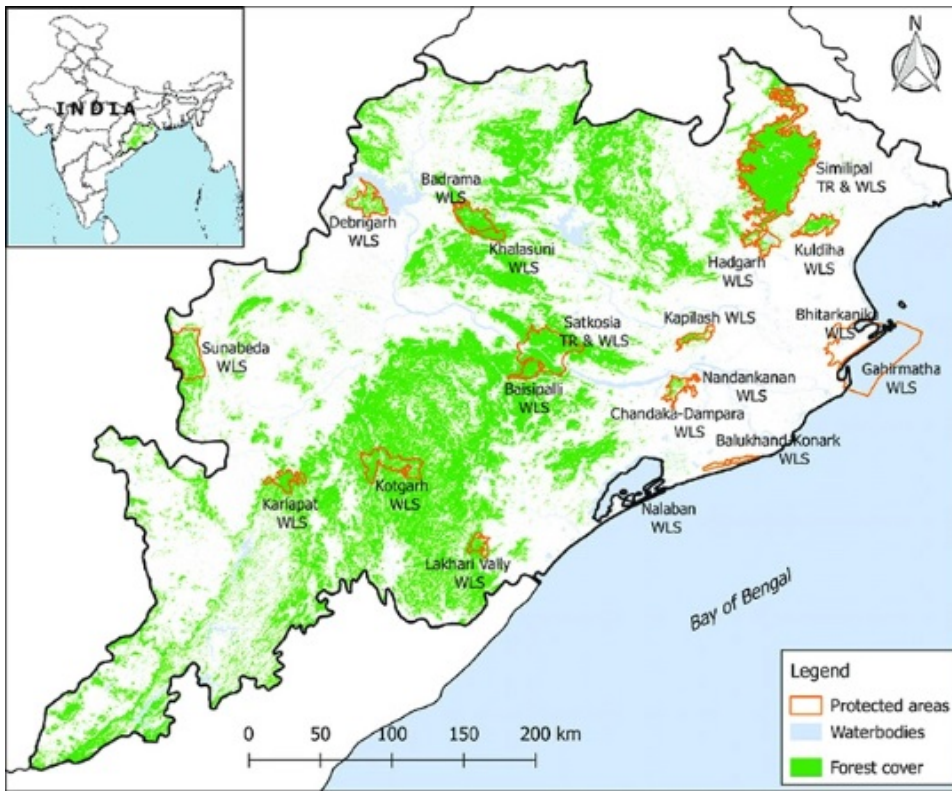
The 7th edition of the Indian Navy - US Navy (IN - USN) Salvage and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) exercise - SALVEX was conducted recently at Kochi. IN and USN have been participating in joint Salvage and EOD exercises since 2005.

The constructive engagement on **operational terms** is aimed at **enhancing the skill sets of the Diving teams in a number of diverse disciplines** such as mine detection and neutralisation, wreck location and salvage.

Other exercises between India and US include [Yudhabhayas](#), [Vajra Prahar](#), [Malabar](#) (Multilateral), Red Flag 16-1, and [Exercise Cope India](#).

Read More: [India-US Relations](#)

[Similipal Tiger Reserve \(STR\)](#)



The Odisha government deployed armed police personnel at the Similipal Tiger Reserve (STR) to protect the 2,700 km² reserve area that is home to unique melanistic tigers. Melanistic refers to having very dark skin/hair due to higher-than-normal level of melanin (substance that gives pigmentation to skin/hair).

STR was formally designated a tiger reserve in 1956 and brought under [Project Tiger](#) in the year 1973. It was declared a biosphere reserve by the Government of India in June, 1994. It has been part of the [UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserve](#) since 2009. It is also a part of the [Mayurbhanj Elephant Reserve](#). Geographically, it lies in the eastern end of the eastern ghat.

Read More: [Similipal Tiger Reserve \(STR\)](#)

India's First Chatbot

The UT of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) launched India's first Tele-MANAS chatbot which will start an instant conversation with people in distress.

Tele-MANAS is a two-tier system. Tier 1 comprises State Tele MANAS cells, which include trained counsellors and mental health specialists. Tier 2 comprises specialists at District Mental Health Programme (DMHP)/Medical College resources for physical consultation and/or [eSanjeevani](#) for audio-visual consultation.

eSanjeevani is a national doctor-to-doctor telemedicine service that strives to provide an alternative to conventional physical consultations via the digital platform. It is a cohesive part of the [Ayushman Bharat Digital Health Mission \(ABDM\)](#).

Read More: [Prioritising Mental Well-being](#)

