



Debris in Gurugram's Green Belt | Haryana | 21 Nov 2024

Why in News?

Recently, the **Municipal Corporation of Gurugram (MCG)** faces backlash for dumping garbage and debris from the **Gurgaon-Faridabad highway** into the **ecologically sensitive green belt of Baliwas village** in the [Aravalli forest](#).

Key Points

- **Importance of the Green Belt:**
 - The green belt is **vital for groundwater recharge, agriculture, recreation, and houses the revered Hill of Devta temple**, intensifying local opposition.
 - Environmentalists highlight the **area's role in preventing desertification and maintaining the balance of the Aravalli forest ecosystem**.
- **Concerns:**
 - Baliwas residents fear being trapped between the Bandhwari waste dump and the new dumping site.
 - Environmentalists caution that **continued dumping could lead to irreversible ecological damage**, affecting soil quality, biodiversity, and groundwater recharge.
- **Government and Administrative Response:**
 - [Haryana State Pollution Control Board \(HSPCB\)](#) plans to inspect the site, raising hopes for stricter enforcement.
 - The MCG Commissioner promised action, forming a dedicated team to assess the situation and recommending strict measures against violators to protect the green belt.

Aravallis

- **About:**
 - The Aravalli Range extends from Gujarat to Delhi through Rajasthan, 692 km in length and varies between 10 to 120 km in width.
 - The range acts as a natural green wall, **with 80% located in Rajasthan and 20% in Haryana, Delhi, and Gujarat**.
 - The Aravalli mountains are divided into two main ranges **the Sambhar Sirohi Range and the Sambhar Khetri Range in Rajasthan**, where their extension is about 560 km.
 - It serves as an **ecotone between the Thar Desert and the Gangetic Plain**.
 - Ecotones are areas where **two or more ecosystems, biological communities, or biotic regions meet**.
 - **Gurusikhar (Rajasthan)**, the highest peak in the range, reaches an elevation of 1,722 meters.
- **Significance of Aravalis:**
 - The Aravallis **prevent the Thar Desert from encroaching** on the Indo-Gangetic plains, historically serving as a catchment for rivers and plains.
 - The range **supports 300 native plant species, 120 bird species**, and exclusive animals like jackals and mongooses.
 - During **monsoons**, the Aravallis **direct monsoon clouds eastward**, benefiting sub-Himalayan rivers and North Indian plains. In winter, they **shield fertile valleys from cold westerly winds**.
 - The range **aids in groundwater replenishment** by absorbing rainwater, thus reviving

- groundwater levels.
- The Aravallis act as the “lungs” for Delhi-NCR, mitigating some effects of the region's severe air pollution.

Haryana Good Governance Award Scheme 2024 | Haryana | 21 Nov 2024

Why in News?

The Haryana government launched the ‘Haryana Good Governance Award Scheme 2024’ to recognize and reward employees for **innovative practices and exceptional efforts that enhance governance across the state.**

Key Points

- **Objective of the Scheme:**
 - The scheme **aims to promote excellence in governance** by recognizing and rewarding employees for innovative practices and exceptional efforts that enhance governance across the state.
- **State-Level Awards:**
 - **Flagship Scheme Awards:**
 - Teams working on flagship projects will be rewarded with a trophy, an appreciation certificate signed by the Chief Secretary.
 - A cash prize of Rs 51,000, shared equally among team members.
 - Maximum of **six awards will be given** in this category.
 - **General State-Level Awards:**
 - Given to teams demonstrating **high performance in governance initiatives.**
 - A trophy and certificate of appreciation, added to recipients' service records.
 - Cash prizes:
 - Rs 51,000 for first prize.
 - Rs 31,000 for second prize.
 - Rs 21,000 for third prize.
 - Cash rewards will be equally distributed among team members.
 - **District-Level Awards:**
 - Presented by the Deputy Commissioner of each district.
 - Rewards included a trophy, an appreciation certificate signed by the Divisional Commissioner.
 - Cash prizes:
 - Rs 31,000 for first prize.
 - Rs 21,000 for second prize.
 - Rs 11,000 for third prize.
- **Good Governance Day:**
 - The awards align with [Good Governance Day](#), celebrated annually on **25th December.**

Good Governance

- **About:**
 - **Governance** refers to the **processes, systems, and structures** through which organizations, societies, or groups are **directed, controlled, and managed.**
 - **Good governance** is defined as **a set of values through which a public**

institution conducts public affairs and manages public resources in a way that respects human rights, the rule of law, and the needs of society.

- The **World Bank** defines good governance in terms of the **traditions and institutions by which authority in a country is exercised**. This includes:
 - the process by which governments are selected, monitored and replaced
 - the capacity of the government to effectively formulate and implement sound policies
 - the respect of citizens and the state for the institutions that govern economic and social interactions among them.

▪ **Basic Principles of Good Governance:**

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