

**INDIAN HERITAGE AND CULTURE, HISTORY****Gamosa**

Kaso Sakhi (Friend of Turtles), a self-help group from Biswanath Ghat, Assam has woven 36 'gamosa' with images of endangered turtles to spread the message of conservation of rare freshwater turtles.

**About:**

- This has been done under a project initiated by the Wildlife Conservation Society/Turtle Survival Alliance and funded by the Disney Wildlife Conservation Fund.
- A part of the money from this gamosa would go to conservation of rare turtles such as the Assam Roofed Turtle (Pangshura sylhetensis).
- Biswanath Ghat is located on the northern banks of the Brahmaputra, which flows through the Kaziranga National Park (KNP). Its high biodiversity led to the 401.5 sq km Biswanath Wildlife Division becoming a part of KNP.

**Gamosa:**

- The Gamosa/Gamusa is an article of great significance for the people of Assam.
- It is generally a white rectangular piece of cloth with primarily a red border on three sides and red woven motifs on the fourth (in addition to red, other colors are also used).
- Although cotton yarn is the most common material for making/weaving gamosas, there are special occasion ones made from Pat silk.
- The multipurpose Assamese gamosa is valued as a gift for visitors, used as a scarf, anti-dust mask, wrapped around the head as a turban.

**Sangai Festival**

Manipur Chief Minister, N. Biren Singh inaugurated the Manipur Sangai Festival 2019.

**About:**

- Every year the State of Manipur celebrates the "Manipur Sangai Festival" from 21st to 30th November.
- The 'Festival' is named after the State animal, Sangai, the brow-antlered deer found only in Manipur.
- It started in the year 2010.
- Every edition of the festival showcases the tourism potential of the state in the field of Arts & Culture, Handloom, Handicrafts, Indigenous Sports, Cuisine and Music of the state etc.

**CONSTITUTION AND POLITY****Constitution Day**

The yearlong nationwide activities on Constitution Day are being launched to mark the 70th anniversary of the adoption of the Indian Constitution by the Constituent Assembly, beginning November 26, 2019.

**About:**

- The Constitution Day, also known as Samvidhan Divas, is observed annually on November 26 to mark the anniversary of the adoption of Indian Constitution on November 26, 1949 by the Constituent Assembly of India, which came into effect on 26 January 1950.
- Background: The Government of India declared 26 November as Constitution Day in 2015 by a gazette notification. The year of 2015 was the 125th birth anniversary of Ambedkar, who played a key role in the drafting of the constitution. Previously this day was celebrated as National Law Day.
- It is aimed at reiterating and reorienting the citizens towards the values and principles expressed in the Constitution and to create awareness of Fundamental Duties as enshrined in the Constitution.

**INDIAN ECONOMY****Credit-Linked Subsidy Services Awas Portal (CLAP)**

Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs Hardeep Singh Puri launched Credit-linked Subsidy Services Awas Portal (CLAP) in New Delhi.

**About:**

- The portal provides a transparent and robust real-time web-based monitoring system for credit-linked Subsidy Services (CLSS) beneficiaries. Using the portal, a beneficiary can track his application status in real-time.
- CLAP will be quite instrumental in addressing the grievances of beneficiaries in a much comprehensive and organized manner.

**Related Info:**

- The Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana is an initiative that was introduced in 2015 to provide affordable housing to the urban poor population in India by 2022.

- This scheme focuses on slum rehabilitation, Credit Linked Subsidy Scheme (CLSS), making housing affordable for all, and offer a subsidy for survey-led independent house construction or renovation.
- Among the four focus areas mentioned above, CLSS is the only scheme that will be implemented as a central sector scheme.
- Through the CLSS, the Government of India aims at increasing the credit flow in institutions to meet the housing needs of the urban poor population in our country.
- Credit Linked Subsidy Scheme will be implemented by two central nodal agencies in India, namely Housing Urban Development Corp and National Housing Bank.

### **ISSUES RELATED TO INTERNAL SECURITY AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT**

#### **Bodoland**

The central government extended the ban on the Assam-based insurgent group National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB) under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 by five more years for its involvement in violent activities and for joining hands with anti-India forces.

#### **About:**

- Bodos are the single largest tribal community in Assam, making up over 5-6 per cent of the state's population. They have controlled large parts of Assam in the past.
- The Bodo Accord was signed in 2003 which resulted in the establishment of a Bodoland Territorial Council under Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India.
- The four districts in Assam — Kokrajhar, Baksa, Udalguri and Chirang — that constitute the Bodo Territorial Area District (BTAD), are home to several ethnic groups.
- The Bodos have had a long history of separatist demands, marked by armed struggle. In December 2014, separatists killed more than 30 people in Kokrajhar and Sonitpur. In the 2012 Bodo-Muslim riots, hundreds were killed and almost 5 lakh were displaced.

#### **Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA)**

The Home Ministry provided the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) Data on the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) in the Rajya Sabha.

#### **About:**

- As per information received from the NCRB, 1,128,999 and 1,554 persons were arrested under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (UAPA) during 2015, 2016 and 2017, respectively. The NCRB is yet to publish the crime report for 2018.
- More than 35% of the cases registered under the stringent UAPA in 2017 were recorded in Manipur. The State registered 330 cases in 2017 in which 352 persons were arrested.
- Though U.P. has recorded only 12% of the cases, it topped the States in the number of arrests made.

#### **Related Info :**

- Under the UAPA, the investigating agency can file a chargesheet in maximum 180 days after the arrests and the duration can be extended further after intimating the court. The anti-terror Act has death penalty and life imprisonment as maximum punishment.
- According to rules, the competent authority in the Home Ministry or the State government has to give sanction to file a chargesheet in seven days after being approached by the investigating agency.

### **ENVIRONMENT- CONSERVATION, BIO-DIVERSITY AND ISSUES**

#### **Smog Tower in Delhi**

A smog tower is being planned for the National Capital Region (NCR)-Delhi to create a clean air zone in the region.

- The smog tower is one of the devices to control air pollution in NCR-Delhi.
- It is expected to reduce particulate matter by 50% in the area.
- The filters being installed would use carbon nanofibres as a major component.
- The proposed smog tower is focused only on reducing particulate matter load at present.
- It will majorly help to reduce the severity of air pollution in NCR-Delhi.

#### **Smog Tower**

- Smog towers are structures designed to work as large-scale air purifiers.
- They are usually fitted with multiple layers of air filters, which clean the air of pollutants as it passes through them.

- China has the world's largest smog tower and has reduced PM 2.5 by 19% in an area of around 6 sq km in the tower's vicinity.

### **PRELIMS SPECIFIC FACTS- INDICES, DAYS, EVENTS, AWARDS ETC**

#### **International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women**

United Nations observes 25th November as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women every year.

- The official theme for 2019 is "Orange the World: Generation Equality Stands Against Rape".
- The day is observed to honour the Mirabal sisters, three political activists from the Dominican Republic who were brutally murdered in 1960 by order of the country's ruler, Rafael Trujillo (1930-1961).
- International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, 2019 will mark the launch of 16 days of activism that will conclude on 10 December 2019 (International Human Rights Day).
- For 2020-2022, the UN Secretary-General's UNiTE (to End Violence against Women campaign) will specifically focus on the issue of rapes committed against women in times of peace or war.

### **ODISHA DEVELOPMENT**

#### **Odisha Crime Branch Braces Up To Tackle Cyber Crime**

Going by the rising trend of cyber crimes, Odisha State CID, Crime Branch has undertaken a slew of capacity building initiatives to put a check on such offences.

About:

- Nearly 250 inspector rank officers were given training on various aspects of cyber crime and investigation of such cases.
- Similarly, there are plans to train 1,000 constables and sub-inspector rank officers so that they can assist senior officials in probe as under the provisions of the IT Act, an inspector rank officer needs to carry out investigation.
- A cyber forensic training lab to impart training will also come up at Cyber Police Station building in Bhubaneswar. The lab will start functioning from December, 2019.
- The lab will be equipped with data recovery tools, video analysis and enhancement tools, audio-video forensic and CCTV equipment, password description and other advanced tools.
- As per the directions of the Central government, a Regional Cyber Crime Coordination Centre under the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) will be set up in Odisha.

### **DAILY ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE**

**Qns. What do you understand by man animal conflict? Examine the conflict in light of environmental ethics and sustainability.**

**Ans:**

The law of nature provide freedom and rights to every living being to live in their natural habitat. However, expanding human needs on land, sea and freshwater has threatened the sustainability of this natural balance.

Man-animal conflict is commonly described as conflict that occurs when both humans and animals compete with each other for food and other resources. It also refers to the threats posed by humans to wildlife or vice-versa. Man-animal conflict basically arises due to the territorial encroachment of each others territory.

#### **Ethical Issues Involved**

- Need vs Animal Rights: Human population has expanded at an alarming rate which has led to the increased encroachment of animal territory. Developmental needs to satisfy the increasing population has led to violation of animal rights.
- For Example: Expansion of highways and physical infrastructure in forest is a ready invitation for more man-animal conflict and threatens the environmental sustainability.
- Utilitarian Perspective: It refers to the greatest good for the greatest number. In respect of man-animal conflict, this concept should aim to minimize the adverse impact of conflict.
- For Example: Hunting of animals for amusement cannot be justified on any grounds, however killing of animals when they threaten humans can somewhat be taken into consideration.
- Respect for Nature: In order to fulfil its materialist greed, humans have excessively destroyed the natural resources and ecosystem. Even the ideas of sustainable development and polluter pays principles are heavily biased towards the interests of human beings rather than

environmental concerns. When choosing between development and environment, the tilt should always be towards saving the environment.

Way Forward:

Humans have peacefully shared the space with animals since time immemorial, but the recent issues arise due to increasing materialist and consumerist tendencies of humans. In order to have a peaceful co-existence, there is a need to differentiate between human needs from greed as nature provides equal rights to both humans and animals.

### **DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS MCQs**

1. UNiTE campaign is recently seen in the news, it is related to
  - (a) Prevention of terrorist activities worldwide
  - (b) Fight against climate change
  - (c) **Violence against women**
  - (d) Wildlife conservation in the arctic region
2. With reference to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) Data on the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), consider the following statements:
  1. More than 35% of the cases registered under the UAPA in 2017 were recorded in Manipur.
  2. Jammu and Kashmir has topped the States in the number of arrests made.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
  - (a) **1 only**
  - (b) 2 only
  - (c) Both 1 and 2
  - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
3. The Constitution Day, also known as Samvidhan Divas, is observed annually on November 26 to mark the anniversary of:
  - (a) **The adoption of Indian Constitution in 1949 by the Constituent Assembly of India.**
  - (b) The day when the Indian Constitution came into effect in 1950.
  - (c) The formation of Constituent Assembly in 1946.
  - (d) None of the above.
4. Sangai, the brow-antlered deer is found only in which of the following state?
  - (a) **Manipur**
  - (b) Nagaland
  - (c) Himachal Pradesh
  - (d) Madhya Pradesh
5. With reference to the Credit-linked Subsidy Services Awas Portal (CLAP), consider the following statements:
  1. Using the portal, a beneficiary of Credit Linked Subsidy Scheme (CLSS) can track his application status in real-time.
  2. Credit Linked Subsidy Scheme (CLSS) is a centrally sponsored scheme.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
  - (a) **1 only**
  - (b) 2 only
  - (c) Both 1 and 2
  - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
6. The Gamosa/Gamusa, recently seen in news, is an article of great significance for the people of:
  - (a) **Assam**
  - (b) Nagaland
  - (c) Mizoram
  - (d) Tripura