



VAJIRAM & RAVI
Institute for IAS Examination

The Analyst

CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout

27th May 2026



India - USA strike Critical Minerals deal



CONTEXT: Under the India - USA TRUST (Transforming Relationship utilising Strategic Technology) Initiative, both countries have formalised a Critical Minerals Framework

Mains Heading 1: What is "Pax - Silica" Initiative?

Context of News :

Rare deal

The framework comes amid shortfall of critical metals in global markets after China imposed export curbs on rare earth elements



Framework seeks to:

- Implement **effective management** of critical minerals and rare earths scrap
- Strengthen resilient and **diversified supply chains**
- Promote **collaboration in financing**

Mining strategy: The agreement follows continued India-U.S. engagements, including India becoming a signatory to the U.S.-led Pax Silica initiative. REUTERS

What is Pax Silica?

It is **NOT a Formal Treaty**

US Led Initiative to counter China's dominance in Critical Minerals & Semiconductors

QUAD, Netherland, Singapore & South Korea

EU & OECD as "Observers"

China + 1: Securing global technology & AI Supply chains

RARE EARTH ELEMENTS

THE HIDDEN POWER BEHIND MODERN TECHNOLOGY



Rare Earth Elements (REEs) are a group of 17 metallic elements that are vital for clean energy, advanced technology, defence and high-performance industries.

WHAT ARE RARE EARTH ELEMENTS?

17 ELEMENTS IN TOTAL

15 LANTHANIDES

SCANDIUM

YTTRIUM

Examples include:
• Neodymium
• Cerium
• Lanthanum
• Europium
• Dysprosium

WHY ARE THEY CALLED "RARE"?

- Not usually found in concentrated, economically exploitable deposits
- Extraction and processing are complex, costly and environmentally hazardous
- Actually relatively abundant in Earth's crust but occur in dispersed form

WHERE IS INDIA RICH IN REEs & RELATED MINERALS?

MINERALS CONTAINING REEs:

- Monazite sands (contains Thorium + Light REEs)
- Ilmenite
- Rutile
- Zircon
- Garnet

IMPORTANT REEs IN INDIA:

Ce Cerium, La Lanthanum, Nd Neodymium

MAJOR DEPOSITS:

- Kerala
- Tamil Nadu
- Odisha
- Andhra Pradesh (coastal sands)

AT A GLANCE

Total Number	17 Rare Earth Elements
Key Uses	EVs, wind turbines, semiconductors, mobile phones, defence, magnets and more
Nature	Strategic, often abundant but not easily extractable
Found in	Dispersed form in Earth's crust

INDIA'S POSITION IN RARE EARTHS

RESERVES	3 rd Largest Rare Earth Reserves in the World	Estimated Reserves ~6.9 million tonnes
PRODUCTION	7 th in the World in Rare Earth Production	Production remains low despite large reserves

GLOBAL LEADER IN PRODUCTION

CHINA	Largest producer of rare earths
	Dominates mining, refining, processing and magnet manufacturing
	Produced around 270,000 tonnes of REEs in 2024
	Controls nearly 90% of rare earth magnet processing

WHY REEs MATTER?

- Power clean energy transition
- Enable advanced electronics & innovation
- Critical for defence & strategic technologies
- Key to future economic competitiveness

Mains Heading 2: What is so "Critical" about these Minerals?

Use of Critical Minerals in Key Industries :

Neodymium & Dysprosium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High strength magnets for motors in Drones, guidance system in missiles & radars
Titanium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong & Lightweight metal for Aircraft, Engines, Armour & Black Boxes
Tungsten	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used in armour piercing projectiles due to its high density
Cobalt, Lithium & Nickel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crucial for advanced batteries powering electronics, EVs & Military hardware
Copper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essential for wiring, electronics & electromagnetic protection in Ships & Aircrafts
Gallium & Germanium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Semiconductors for electronic warfare systems



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Mains Heading 2 : What is so "Critical" about these Minerals?

PRELIMS 2025 :

6. Consider the following statements :
- I. India has joined the Minerals Security Partnership as a member.
 - II. India is a resource-rich country in all the 30 critical minerals that it has identified.
 - III. The Parliament in 2023 has amended the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 empowering the Central Government to exclusively auction mining lease and composite license for certain critical minerals.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?
- (a) I and II only (b) II and III only
(c) I and III only (d) I, II and III

PRELIMS 2026 :

95. Which of the following statements about Rare Earth Elements (REEs) and Critical Minerals is/are correct ?
1. Modern technological innovations including Artificial Intelligence, robotics and space exploration extensively utilise Rare Earth Elements (REEs).
 2. China has the highest share in mining of REEs followed by India.
 3. The Government of India launched the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) in 2025 to establish a robust framework for self-reliance in the critical mineral sector.
 4. Rare Earth Elements are a set of 13 metallic elements.
- Select the answer using the code given below :
- (a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 3 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4
(d) 1, 2 and 4

Mains Heading 3 : Status of "Self - Sufficiency" in Critical Minerals :

Global Critical Minerals Outlook 2025 report by IEA

Lithium demand rose by 30% in 2024

Nickel, cobalt, graphite & REE : 8-15% growth

Aggregate value pegged at \$325 billion by 2030

Major Demand drivers : EVs, BESS, Renewable Energy & AI Data Centre

Pillar for Energy Security & achieving National Goals

India's Global standing:

Crude Steel	2nd
Aluminium	2nd
Limestone	3rd
Iron Ore	4th
Coal	2nd

Mineral	Importance	Import Dependency
Bismuth	Pharmaceutical and chemicals	85.6%
Lithium	EV batteries and energy storage	82%
Silicon	Semiconductor & solar panels	76%
Titanium	Aerospace & defence applications	50%
Tellurium	Solar power & thermoelectric devices	42%



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Mains Heading 3 : Status of "Self - Sufficiency" in Critical Minerals :

Ministry of Mines Report 2023 : 30 essential critical minerals of which complete import dependency for 10 minerals

China : World's Largest mining Nation

Exploration investment : **\$19.4 Billion**

87% of Rare earth elements processing

58% of world's lithium refining

68% of Silicon processing

Inadequate exploration & tapping of Reserves : Case study of Ilmenite

Deep seated minerals : High risk investment in exploration & mining

Lack of incentive for Private sector

Case Study : Discovery of 5.9 million tonnes of Lithium Deposit in J & K

Villagers show lithium stones discovered in Reasi district, Jammu and Kashmir. | Photo Credit: PTI

Mains Heading 4 : What has been India's Response?

Mines & Minerals Act 2023:

Steps taken :

KABIL : To secure overseas Mineral assets

GSI + CSIR = Promotion of Circular Economy

PLI for extraction of Critical Minerals

100% FDI under Automatic route

National Critical Mineral Mission 2024

- Fast track regulatory approval process
- Financial incentive to private companies
- FDI policy for Investments from Land Bordering Countries (LBCs)
- Applications from REEs sector shall process within 60 days
- Centre for Excellence on Critical Minerals

- Private sector = 6 out of 12 atomic minerals
- Prospective stage exploration : Allow drilling & subsurface excavation
- National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) : Funding G4-G1 explorations
- Under Single License : Explore area upto 1000 km²
- Mine Owners : Sell 50% of annual mineral including coal in open market



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CONTEXT: Under the India - USA TRUST (Transforming Relationship utilising Strategic Technology) Initiative, both countries have formalised a Critical Minerals Framework

Mains Heading 5 : India - USA Critical Mineral Deal :

Key Features & Objectives :

- **Backdrop :** Licensing regime by China to choke exports of REEs (control almost 90% of global critical minerals processing)
- **TRUST initiative :** India - USA Critical Minerals Framework
- **Focus :** Securing Supply, mining & processing of Critical Minerals & Rare Earth elements
- **Partners in Mineral Security Partnership (MSP)**
- **Large scale investment & FDI**

Other Initiatives by USA

- **CHIPS Act 2022 :** Subsidies for Semiconductor manufacturing
- **Export restrictions on Advanced AI Chips**
- **Chip 4 Alliance Framework :** U + J + SK + Taiwan
- **"Friend shoring"** strategy

Other Initiatives by India

- **PLI Scheme** for Semiconductors
- **KABIL :** To secure overseas Mineral assets
- **Deep Ocean Mission** for Ocean Exploration

Mains Practise Question

Practise Question : What do you understand by Critical minerals? Why Critical minerals are essential for **India's Energy & National Security**? What are the **steps taken** by Government of India? (15 Marks, 250 words)



Law Diluting India's Wetland Count



CONTEXT: The article highlights the importance of Wetlands in Natural ecosystem and argue for a better conservation strategy of Wetlands in India & Globally.

Mains Heading 1: What is Ramsar Convention 1971?

Context of News :

The Supreme Court on Tuesday agreed to examine a challenge to the constitutional validity of the definition of 'wetlands' in the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017 for arbitrarily excluding most human-made, artificial, and historically developed wetlands from environmental protection and diluting accountability through decentralised oversight.

Ramsar Sites

Wetland designated as one of "International Importance" under Ramsar Convention signed in Ramsar, Iran in 1971

Ramsar Convention :

- 2nd February: World Wetland Day
- Theme 2026 : Wetland & Traditional Knowledge : Celebrating Cultural Heritage
- 1974 : First Ramsar Site : Cobourg Peninsula in Australia
- 1975 : Convention came into force with UNESCO as depository
- 1981 : Chilika Lake & Keoladeo NP declared Ramsar Sites

Mains Heading 1: What is Ramsar Convention 1971?

Wetlands Conservation & Management Rules 2017

Includes	Does NOT Include
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area of marsh, fen, peatland or water Whether natural or artificial Whether permanent or temporary Water that is static or flowing Fresh, brackish or salt Marine water = Depth of which at low tide does not exceed 6 meters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> River channels Paddy fields Human made water bodies or Tanks Structure created for Aquaculture, salt production & Irrigation

Ravindra Sinha's Petition :

- Definition of "Wetlands" in Rule 2(g) of 2017 Law is inconsistent with Ramsar Convention
- "Includes both **Natural & Artificial Wetlands** whether **permanent or temporary**" without any distinction
- Excluded water bodies constructed for drinking water, irrigation, salt production & Paddy cultivation
- Weakens the existing legal protection & move substantial majority of Wetlands from protection framework**

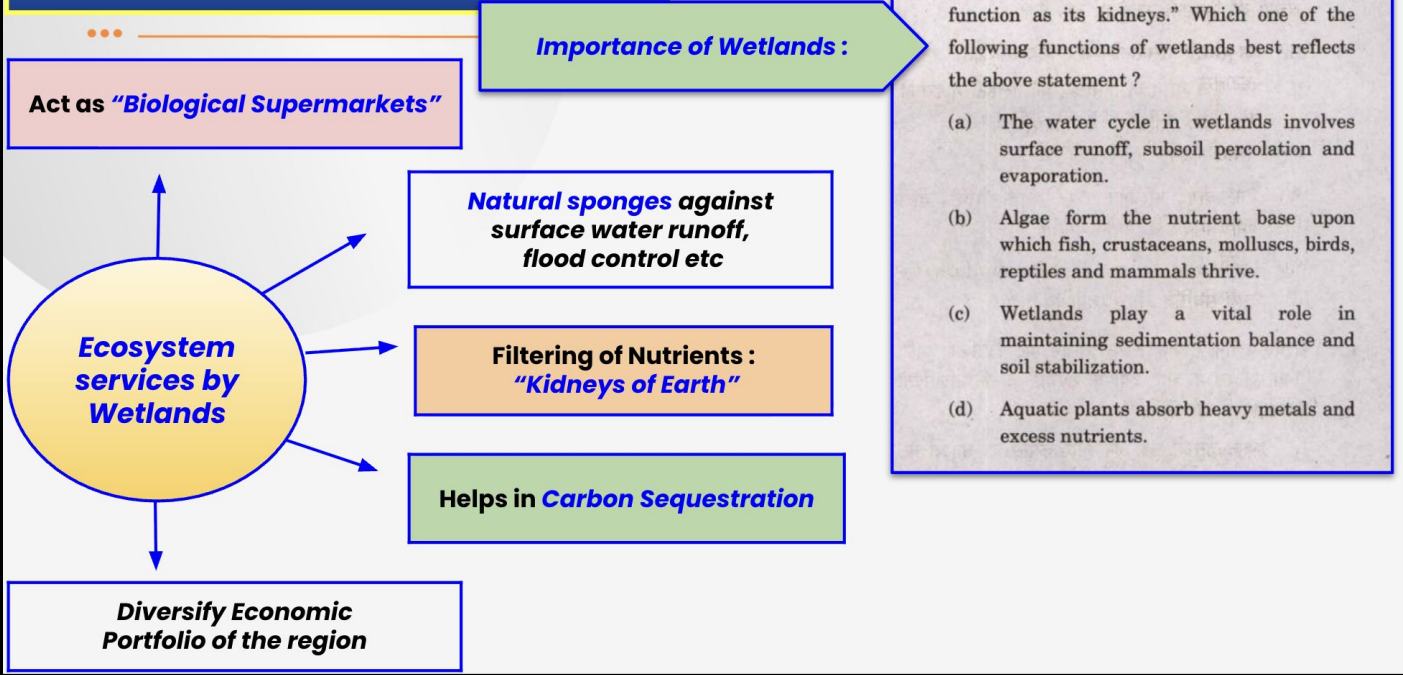


Law Diluting India's Wetland Count

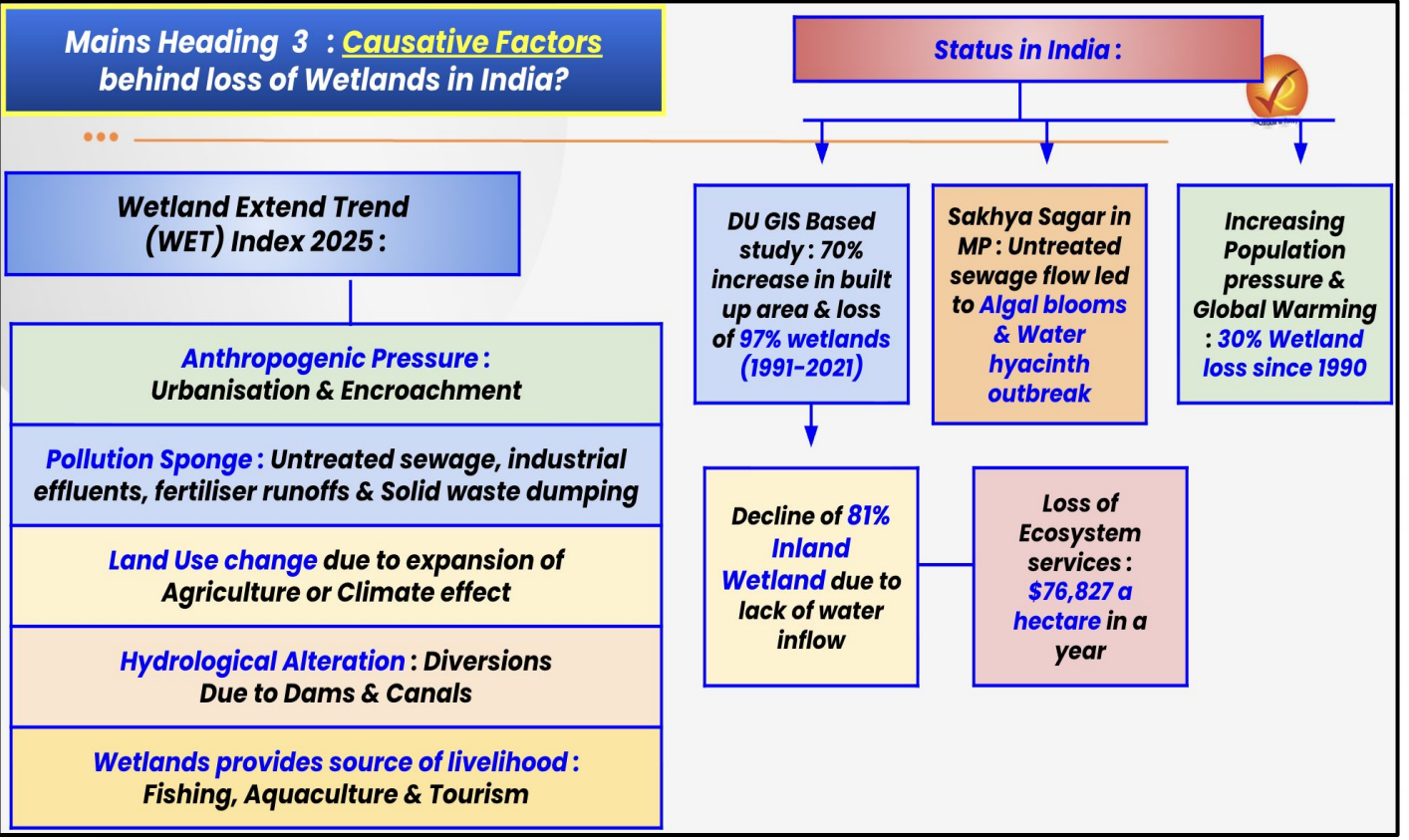


CONTEXT: The article highlights the importance of Wetlands in Natural ecosystem and argue for a better conservation strategy of Wetlands in India & Globally.

Mains Heading 2 : What are importance of Wetlands for Environment Conservation?

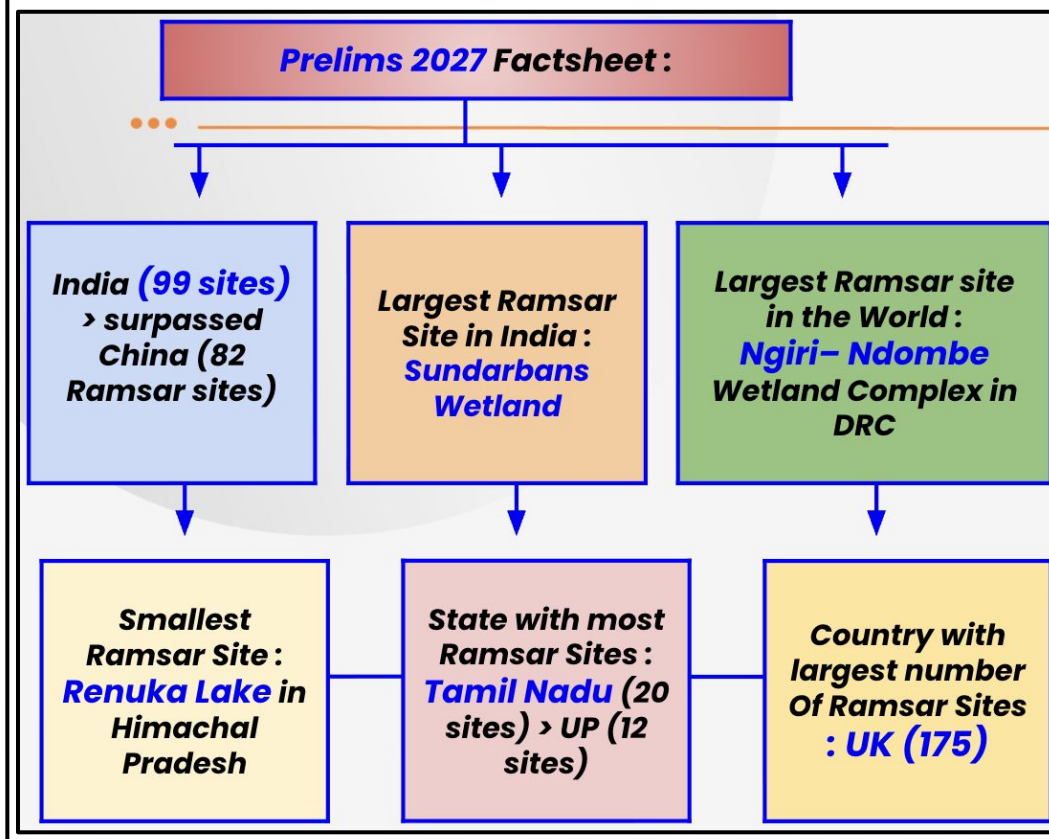
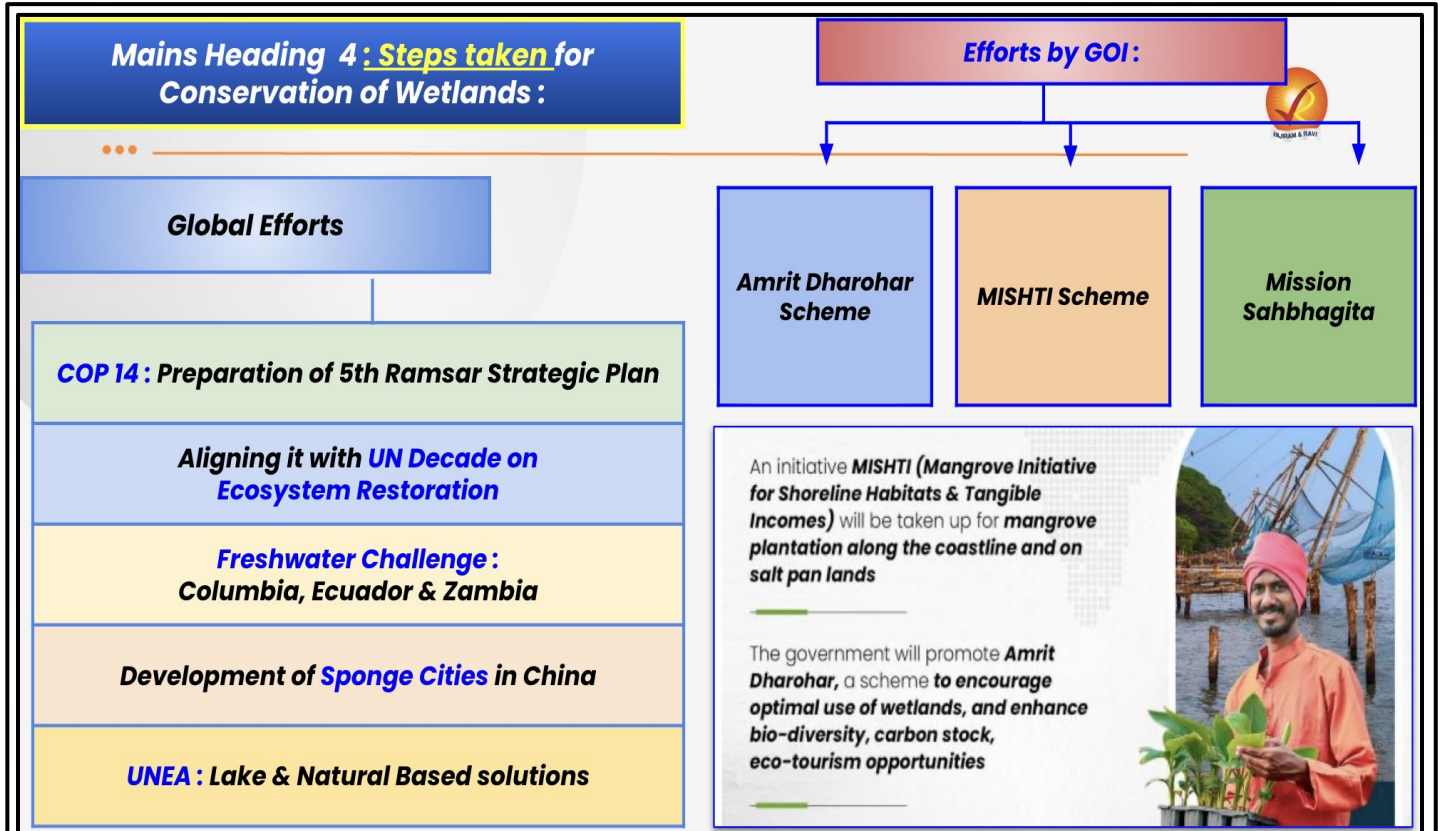


Mains Heading 3 : Causative Factors behind loss of Wetlands in India?



Law Diluting India's Wetland Count

CONTEXT: The article highlights the importance of Wetlands in Natural ecosystem and argue for a better conservation strategy of Wetlands in India & Globally.



SYLLABUS : Prelims : Polity
Newspaper : The Hindu Page No : 06

Rajya Sabha Defections

Context of News :

The recent developments within the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), appear to have dealt a decisive blow to its representation in the Rajya Sabha. On April 24, 2026, seven out of its 10 sitting Members of Parliament, publicly announced that over two-thirds of the party's MPs had decided to merge with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), invoking the provisions of the 10th Schedule of the Constitution.

While the development has attracted widespread political attention, its implications extend beyond immediate partisan concerns. It raises significant constitutional questions regarding the interpretation of the anti-defection law, particularly the scope of the "merger" exception under the 10th Schedule. Nor is the

52nd CA 1985 : Disqualification of MPs & MLAs on ground of "Defection" from one political party to another

Member of political party A **voluntary gives up his membership of Party A**

Member of Political Party A votes or abstains from voting **in contrary to the directions issued by "Whip"**

Elected member of house becomes disqualified if he joins political party

Nominated member becomes disqualified if he joins Political party after 6 months from the date on which he takes his seat in House

Rajya Sabha Defections

Are there any "Exceptions"?

One third (33%) members of the 'legislature party' **splitting** to form a separate group

91st CA 2003 : Removed this provision to ensure political stability

Merger of their 'political party' with another party that is approved by **two-third members (66%)** of its 'legislature party'

September 2022 : **8/11 Congress MLAs of Goa Legislative Assembly merged with BJP**

If member after being **elected as Presiding Officer** voluntarily gives up membership of Party

01

Total No. of Ministers shall not exceed 15% strength of LS = 82

02

Disqualified on ground of Defection = Disqualified to be appointed as Minister

Other Reforms by 91st CA 2003

03

Disqualified to hold any remunerative "Political post"

04

No more protection on ground of "Split"



SYLLABUS : Prelims : Polity

Newspaper : The Hindu Page No : 06

Rajya Sabha Defections

Important SC's Judgement on ADL under 10th Schedule :

Kihoto Hollohan Case 1992	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Speaker while deciding Anti - Defection cases acts as "Tribunal"• Decision is subjected to "Judicial Review"
Ravi S. Naik v. UOI 1994	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wide interpretation of "Voluntarily giving up membership"• Includes <i>conduct or public statements against party interests</i>
Jagjit Singh Case 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Merger must be <i>recognised by "Original" political party</i> and not just legislature party
KM Singh v. Speaker of Manipur 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Speakers must decide Anti defection petitions within a "reasonable time" – not exceeding 3 months• Recommendation : <i>Independent tribunals could replace Speakers as adjudicating authorities</i>

Sharpen the anti-defection law, strengthen democracy

The anti-defection law has played a crucial role in political stability, but there are gaps which need to be addressed to make it more effective and impartial

Supreme Court considers question of timeline for Speakers to decide on defections

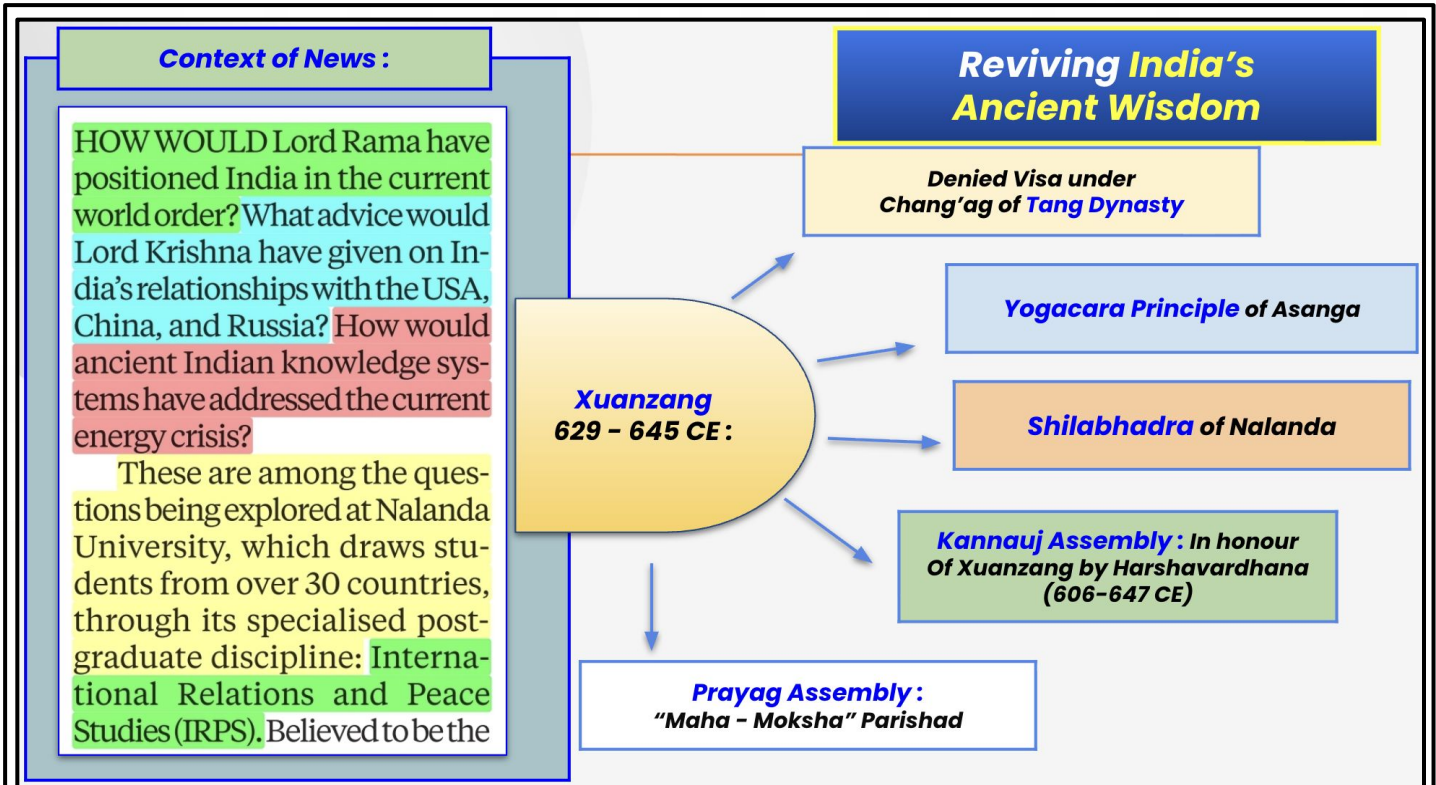
Bench is hearing petitions filed by BRS leaders seeking timely action by the Telangana Assembly Speaker on disqualification proceedings pending against 10 MLAs who shifted allegiance to the ruling Congress in the State



Reviving India's Ancient Wisdom



SYLLABUS : Prelims : Art & Culture
Newspaper : The Indian Express Page No : 09



Reviving India's Ancient Wisdom

Nalanda University :

- Kumaragupta I in 427 CE
- Vedas + Theravada + Mahayana + Vajrayana
- Xuanzang (629-645 CE)
- Dharma Ganj : The Great Library
- Ratnadadhi + Ratnaranjaka + Ratnasagara

Notable Luminaries:

- Aryabhata
- Nagarjuna
- Dharmapala
- Dinnaga

Bakhtiyar Khilji in 1205 CE

Rediscovered by : Francis Buchanan

Nalanda University | An ancient centre of learning

Years-long efforts to re-establish the 'Mahavihara', known as the first international residential school in the world and home for learned monks and teachers, from Nagarjuna to Aryabhata, came to fruition last week as Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated a specially-designed new campus in Bihar

Updated - June 23, 2024 10:30 am IST

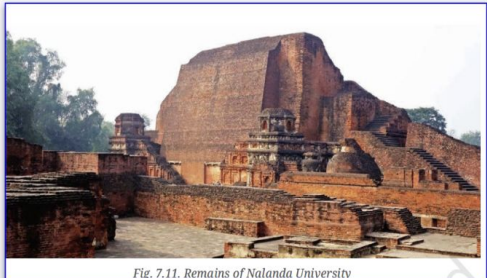

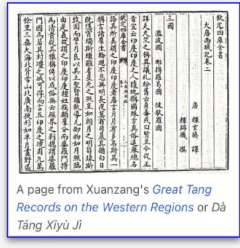


Fig. 7.11. Remains of Nalanda University



Seal of Harsha found in Nalanda^[69]



A page from Xuanzang's Great Tang Records on the Western Regions or Da Tang Xiyu Ji



Reviving India's Ancient Wisdom



SYLLABUS : Prelims : Art & Culture

Newspaper : The Indian Express Page No : 09

Reviving India's Ancient Wisdom



Takshila	Pakistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexander Cunningham • Panini - Ashtadhyayi • Chanakya - Arthashastra • Jivaka - Buddha & Bimbisara • UNESCO WHS
Vikramshila	Dharmapala (770-810 CE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bhagalpur, Bihar • Adhyaksha > Maha Pandita > Upadhyay > Acharya > Bhikshu • Atisha Dipankara - Revived Buddhism in Tibet • Vasubandhu - Abhi - Dharma - Moksha - Karika
Odantapuri	Gopal I (750-770 CE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd Oldest after Nalanda • 5 Mahaviharas = Somapura + Jagaddala • Samye Monastery of Tibet
Odisha	Diamond Triangle : Lalitagiri, Udaygiri & Ratnagiri	
Valabhi	Maitraka (475-776 CE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I - Tsing visited Valabhi • Hinayana and Nikaya Buddhism • Kathasaritsagara = Somadeva



Judiciary's role in Complete Justice



SYLLABUS : Prelims: Polity

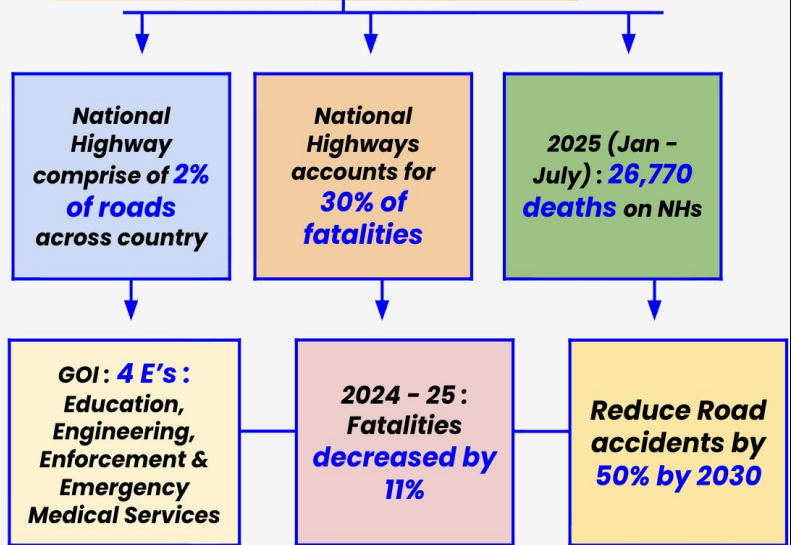
Newspaper : The Hindu Page No : 12

Judiciary's role in Complete Justice

Context of News :

Another milestone in the direction of delivery of complete justice by the Supreme Court of India is its recent decision to elevate the Right to safe travel on National Highways as a fundamental right, declaring it an integral part of the Right to Life under Article 21 of the Constitution. The Court took *suo motu* cognisance of two road accidents in November 2025, which led to a loss of 34 lives and has issued wide-ranging directives. [In *Re: Phalodi Accident vs. National Highways Authority of India and Others* (2025)]. The Court has clearly held

Snapshot on Road Accidents in India :



Concept of Complete Justice?

What is Article 142?

SC may pass such decree or make such order necessary for doing "Complete justice" in any cause or matter pending before it which shall be enforceable throughout territory of India

SC is **Custodian of Constitution**: Enable it to go beyond procedural constraints

Non - Exercise of Article 142 may lead to **travesty of Justice**

Exercised to ensure observance of "Due Process of Law"

Canara Bank Case 2003: Constitution intends to do "Substantive Justice" & give primacy to Natural Justice

Anil Kumar Jain Case 2009: HCs doesn't have constitutional power to do complete justice

Expansion of "Right to Life"

- Right to decent environment including pollution free water & air
- Right to Privacy
- Right to Free education upto 14 years of age
- Right to Free Legal Aid
- Right to travel abroad
- Right against Custodial harassment
- Right to emergency medical aid
- Right of women to treated with decency & dignity
- Right to Information
- Right to be free from adverse impact of Climate Change



SYLLABUS : Prelims : Internal Security
Newspaper : The Indian express Page No : 06

Anti - Drone Systems

Context of News :

UNION HOME Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday said anti-drone systems will be deployed along the international border within the next six months, underlining the need to view the BSF's traditional role "from a new dimension".

Speaking at an event near the international border in Rajasthan's Bikaner, Shah said that the BSF must strengthen its preparedness by maintaining constant vigilance against illegal smuggling, infiltration, and cross-border activities, highlighting the Centre's decision to expand BSF's jurisdiction from 15 kilometres to 50 kilometres from the border.

Anti - Drone Systems :

Golden Dome
Initiative by USA

European Sky Shield Initiative (ESSI) :
Germany, Turkiye, Greece etc

Arrow, David Sling & Iron Beam
Initiative by Israel

Bullet Curtain & Silent Hunter by China

60. Consider the following statements about Mission Sudarshan Chakra of India :

1. It aims to enhance India's air defence, ballistic missile defence and aerial offensive capabilities.
2. This Mission is being designed to enhance rapid, precise, and powerful defence responses, reinforcing India's strategic autonomy.
3. One of the aims of this Mission is to cover all public places of India by an expanded nationwide security shield by 2035.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- (a) 1, 2 and 3
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1 only



SYLLABUS : Prelims : Internal Security
Newspaper : The Indian express Page No : 06

MISSION SUDARSHANA CHAKRA

INDIA'S FUTURISTIC SHIELD FOR A SECURE TOMORROW

“ In the coming 10 years, by 2035, all the important places of the nation, which include strategic as well as civilian areas, like hospitals, railways, any centre of faith, will be given complete security cover through new platforms of technology.

– PM Narendra Modi
Red Fort, 15th August

1 VISION



A multi-layered, integrated defence shield to protect India from futuristic aerial threats.

TARGET: 2035

2 WHAT IS IT?

Strengthens Air Defence (AD), Ballistic Missile Defence (BMD) and aerial offensive capabilities.



Fuses cyber, cognitive and aerospace domains into a cohesive “kavach” to counter futuristic, complex, massed and mixed aerial threats through a unified strategy.

3 WHO IS LEADING?



The project is primarily being spearheaded by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

4 WHO IS INVOLVED?

A whole-of-nation approach with seamless coordination among:



ARMY



AIR FORCE



NAVY



ISRO



CYBER & AI SYSTEMS



PRIVATE DEFENCE SECTOR

5 STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE



Strengthens India's indigenous defence capability.

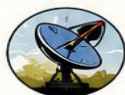


Enhances strategic autonomy under Atmanirbhar Bharat.

PROTECTS WHAT MATTERS MOST



NUCLEAR PLANTS



ISRO FACILITIES



STRATEGIC MILITARY ASSETS



CIVILIAN INFRASTRUCTURE



**MISSION SUDARSHANA CHAKRA:
ONE SHIELD. ONE NATION. ONE FUTURE.**



SYLLABUS : Prelims : Important National Parks
Newspaper : The Hindu **Page No : 03**

Gir National Park

Context of News :

Two lion cubs have died in Gujarat's Gir National Park region due to a suspected Babesia infection, while three other Asiatic lions died in separate incidents linked to natural causes and territorial infighting, according to the State Forest Department.

ASIATIC LION

POPULATION RISES TO 891 IN 2025 CENSUS
A MAJOR CONSERVATION MILESTONE

INDIA RECORDS A 32% RISE IN ASIATIC LIONS SINCE 2020



Asiatic Lions :

Vulnerable on IUCN

Found **ONLY** in India

ONLY in Gir, Gujarat

Appendix 1 of CITES

Schedule 1 of WPA 1972

7 Big Cats	WPA 1972	IUCN	CITES
Tiger	Schedule 1	Endangered	Appendix 1
Lion	Schedule 1	Vulnerable	Appendix 1
Cheetah	Schedule 1	Critically Endangered	Appendix 1
Leopard	Schedule 1	Vulnerable	Appendix 1
Snow Leopard	Schedule 1	Vulnerable	Appendix 1
Jaguar	Not Applicable	Near Threatened	Appendix 1
Puma	Not Applicable	Least Concern	Appendix 1

TYPES OF BIG CATS & THEIR LOCATIONS



Q1. With reference to the anti-defection provisions under the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

1. A nominated member of a House can be disqualified if he joins a political party after six months from the date on which he takes his seat.
2. The decision regarding the disqualification of a member under the anti-defection law is made by the Election Commission of India.
3. The anti-defection law was added to the Constitution through the 52nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1985.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: a

Q2. With reference to Nalanda University, consider the following statements:

1. It was founded in the 5th century CE by Emperor Kumaragupta I.
2. It was destroyed around 1200 AD by the Turkish invader Bakhtiyar Khilji.
3. It is regarded as the world's first international residential university.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only One
- b) Only Two
- c) All Three
- d) None

Answer: c

Q3. Which of the following statements correctly describes Article 142 of the Indian Constitution?

- a) It empowers the President to seek an advisory opinion from the Supreme Court on questions of law or fact.

- a) It empowers the Supreme Court to pass decrees or orders necessary for doing complete justice in any case before it.
- b) It empowers the President to impose a Financial Emergency in India.
- c) It provides special status to Scheduled Areas and Tribal Areas.

Answer: b

Q4. Consider the following pairs:

S.No.	Anti-Drone Systems	Country
1.	Golden Dome	Israel
2.	Iron Beam	U.S.A
3.	Silent Hunter	China

How many of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

- a) Only One
- b) Only Two
- c) All Three
- d) None

Answer: a

Q5. With reference to the Asiatic Lion, consider the following statements:

1. The Asiatic Lion is classified as "Endangered" on the IUCN Red List.
2. In the wild, Asiatic Lions are found only in the Gir region of Gujarat.
3. India has recorded a massive decline in the population of Asiatic Lions since 2020.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: b





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9-B, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar,
New Delhi - 110060 • Ph.: 41007400, 41007500

New No. 62, P Block, 6th Avenue, Anna Nagar,
Chennai - 600040 • Ph.: 044-4330-2121

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