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THE HINDU Page 10

EKLAVYA MODEL RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 - Government Policies & Interventions)

Population criterion for new Eklavya schools 'impractical', says parliamentary panel

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

The Tribal Affairs Ministry intends to go ahead with its plan to build new Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) on 15 acres of land in all sub-districts which have Scheduled Tribe communities of more than 20,000 people who make up at least 50% of their total population, despite a Parliamentary panel saying that this criterion is "impractical".

Earlier this year, the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment recommended immediate review of this criterion, pointing to significant difficulties in identifying and acquiring lands in several districts, especially in forested or hilly areas where a contigious 15-acre plot is hard to find. This criterion would also deprive scattered ST populations of the benefit of the Eklavya schools, the panel said.

However, the Tribal Affairs Ministry is pushing ahead, with officials in the National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) saying that there is no process as of yet to even review the guidelines as



Arjun Munda

suggested by the Standing Committee. Tribal Affairs Secretary Anil Kumar Jha told *The Hindu*, "These criteria were decided and finalised by the Cabinet and we intend to go ahead with it." President Droupadi Murmu is set to lay the foundation stones for seven more such schools in Jharkhand on Janjatiya Gaurav Divas on November 15. While Ministry officials said that 688 EMRS have been sanctioned so far, of which 392 are functional, only a total of 230 schools are functioning from their own buildings.

However, as per data presented by the government to the Standing Committee as of the end of 2021-22, a total of 232 sanctioned EMRS were yet to begin construction.

The government had submitted that in many areas where the population criterion is met, suitable land is not available for constructing the schools and even if the land is available, the legal acquisition of the land is taking time. Further, it said that in several areas where land was identified, "several discrepancies also been noticed", which it is taking time to resolve. These were the problems raised by the respective State governments, the Ministry told the Committee.

A senior NESTS official said, "Most of the places we are identifying for EMRSs, there is no land available inside the village or the block. So we are having to go to the outskirts, where in many cases, whatever we are identifying is turning out to be forested land, for which permissions take longer than usual."

Responding to the Committee's recommendations, Minister Arjun Munda told *The Hindu*, "Look, our government will look at all levels of populations. This criteria is just for the first phase. Once we have set up all the schools under this phase, we will look at building the schools for areas with smaller populations."

Context: The Tribal Affairs Ministry intends to go ahead with its **plan to build new Eklavya Model Residential Schools** (EMRS) on 15 acres of land in all sub-districts which have Scheduled Tribe communities of more than 20,000 people who make up at least 50% of their total population, despite a Parliamentary panel saying that this criterion is "impractical".

Eklavya Model Residential Schools

- **About:** A scheme for making **model residential schools** for Indian tribals (ST- Scheduled Tribes) across India.
- **Origin**: It started in the year 1997-98.
- **Objective**: To impart quality education to tribal students, with an emphasis on not only academic education but all-round development of tribal students.
- **Nodal Ministry**: Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- **Implementing agency**: National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS), is an **autonomous Society** has been set up under the **Ministry of Tribal Affairs** to establish, endow, maintain, control, and manage the schools and to do all acts and things necessary for or conducive to the promotion of such schools.
    - The NESTS shall **function through an Executive Committee** under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Tribal Affairs.
- **Coverage**:
    - **EMRS Guidelines of 2010:** At least **one EMRS is to be set up** in each Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA) / Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP) having **50% ST population in the area.**
    - **Budget 2018-19 announcement:** Every block with more than 50% ST population and at least 20,000 tribal persons, will have an Eklavya Model Residential School by the year 2022.
        - These are being set up by grants provided under Article 275(1) of the Constitution.
- **Current status**: 384 functional schools spanned across the country established at par with Navodaya Vidyalaya with focus on special state-of-the-art facilities for preserving local art and culture besides providing training in sports and skill development.

BUSINESS STANDARD

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CARBON CREDIT

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Env & Eco)

Carbon credit revival a likely boon for developing nations

But 'greenwashing' fears abound

SHREYA JAI
New Delhi, 13 November

A decade back, the first and only global carbon-trading system collapsed with prices falling 85 per cent — from $20 to $3 in five years.

With buyers in the developed world hard to find and acute lack of emission-reduction projects in developing nations, the clean development mechanism, under the 1997 Kyoto Protocol, suffered a slow death.

EDIT: TRANSPARENCY WILL BE CRITICAL FOR GREEN BONDS
PAGE 11

The world's largest and richest economy, the US, has now pitched for a resurrection of the carbon-credit market. John Kerry, climate envoy for the US government, last week at COP27 announced a carbon offset plan, "Energy Transition Accelerator" (ETA), which, he said, would help the developing countries meet their energy-transition goals.



The ETA plan has underlined 5 per cent of the credits generated through the mechanism would be for raising money for international adaptation support.

India could be one the major beneficiaries, having recently announced in legislature building its own carbon-credit market, and is expected to be one of the world's largest carbon exporters.

Turn to Page 8

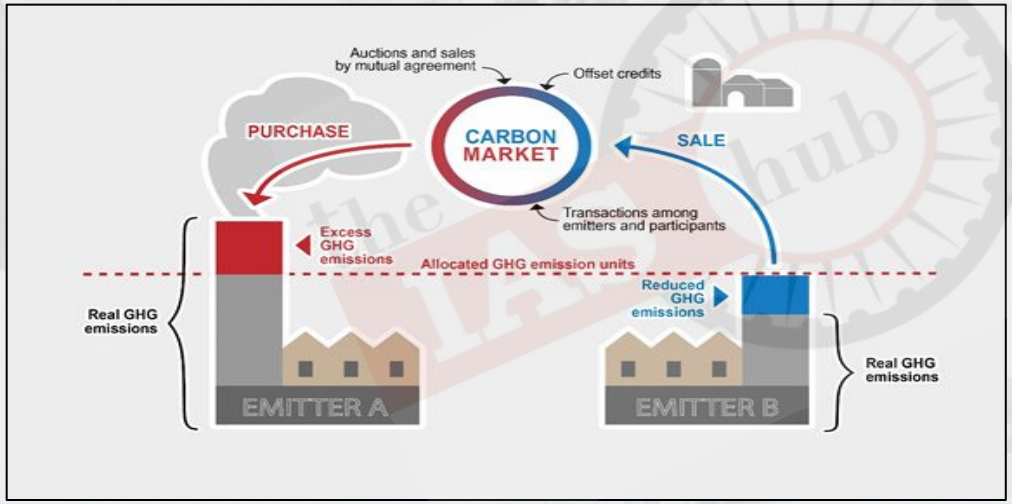
WHAT IS A CARBON CREDIT

Projects or entities that save on emissions can issue carbon credits against their savings. These are usually energy-efficient, renewable energy, and sustainable agriculture projects.

These credits can be bought by an entity that is a carbon emitter. A carbon credit allows its owner to emit a certain amount of carbon dioxide (CO_2) or other greenhouse gases. One credit is equivalent to a tonne of CO_2 or the equivalent of other greenhouse gases.

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CONFIDENCE OF INVESTORS KEY TO MEET CLIMATE GOALS: INDIA



Context: A decade back, the first and only global carbon-trading system collapsed with prices falling 85 per cent — from $20 to $3 in five years.

Carbon Credit

- **About**: A **credit for greenhouse emissions** reduced or removed from the atmosphere by an emission reduction project, which can be used by governments, industry, or private individuals to compensate for the emissions they generate elsewhere.
- **Basis**: Carbon credits are based on the "cap-and-trade" model that was used to reduce sulfur pollution in the 1990s.
  - 1 carbon credit = 1 metric ton of carbon dioxide (or carbon dioxide equivalent gases (CO2-eq))
- **Global carbon credit offset trading market**: Negotiators at the **Glasgow COP26 climate change summit** in November 2021 agreed to create a global carbon credit offset trading market.
  - Carbon trading started formally in 1997 under the United Nations' Kyoto Protocol on climate change which had more than 150 nation signatories.
- **3 mechanisms:** The **Kyoto Protocol,** an international agreement that aimed to reduce carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions and the presence of greenhouse gases (GHG) in the atmosphere, provides for **three mechanisms** that enable countries, or operators in developed countries, to acquire greenhouse gas reduction credits:
  - **Joint Implementation (JI):** A developed country with relatively high costs of domestic greenhouse reduction would set up a project in another developed country.
  - **Clean Development Mechanism (CDM):** A developed country can **"sponsor" a greenhouse gas reduction** project in a developing country where the cost of greenhouse gas reduction project activities is usually much lower, but the atmospheric effect is globally equivalent.
    - The developed country **would be given credits for meeting its emission reduction targets**, while the developing country would receive the capital investment and clean technology or beneficial change in land use.
  - **International Emissions Trading (IET):** Countries can trade in the **international carbon credit** market to cover their shortfall in Assigned Amount Units (AAUs).
    - Countries with surplus units can sell them to countries that are exceeding their emission targets under Annex B of the Kyoto Protocol.

INDIAN EXPRESS

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9TH SCHEDULE

(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 - Polity & Governance)

NINTH SCHEDULE (OF CONSTITUTION)

Jharkhand wants protection from judicial review for its 77% quota. But Ninth Schedule protection isn't absolute

THE JHARKHAND Assembly on Friday passed two Bills — to increase reservation in vacant government posts and services to 77 per cent, and to use land records with 1932 as the cut-off year to determine domicile status. Chief Minister Hemant Soren said the Bills would come into force after the Centre includes these in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution.

Ninth Schedule

The Ninth Schedule contains a list of central and state laws that cannot be challenged in courts. Currently, 284 such laws are shielded from judicial review. Most of the laws protected under the Schedule concern agriculture/ land issues.

The Schedule became part of the Constitution in 1951, when it was created by the new Article 31B ("Validation of certain Acts and Regulations") which, along with Article 31A, was inserted into the Constitution to protect laws related to agrarian reform and to abolish the Zamindari system. While Article 31A extends protection to 'classes' of laws, Article 31B shields specific laws or enactments.

The First Amendment added 13 laws to the Schedule. Subsequent amendments in 1955, 1964, 1971, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1984, 1990, 1994, and 1999 took the number of protected laws to 284.

No blanket protection

While the Ninth Schedule provides a "safe harbour" from judicial review, it does not extend blanket protection.

In *I R Coelho v State of Tamil Nadu* (2007), a nine-judge Bench of the Supreme Court ruled that laws placed under the Ninth Schedule can be challenged on the ground of violating the basic structure of the Constitution. The court said the "basic structure" test would be applicable to laws inserted into the Ninth Schedule after 1973, the year the Supreme Court formulated the basic structure doctrine in the *Kesavananda Bharati* case.

The *I R Coelho* verdict said, "A law that abrogates or abridges rights guaranteed by Part III of the Constitution may violate the basic structure doctrine or it may not. If former is the consequence of law, whether by amendment of any Article of Part III or by an insertion in the Ninth Schedule, such law will have to be invalidated in exercise of judicial review power of the Court."

Political caveat

The proposed 77 per cent reservation in Jharkhand breaches the 50 per cent ceiling set by the Supreme Court in the landmark 1992 *Indra Sawhney v Union of India* verdict. However, placing a legislation in the Ninth Schedule shields it from judicial scrutiny to the extent laid down by the Supreme Court.

After the Bills were passed, Jharkhand CM Soren said, "Whatever we promised to the people, we have delivered. And now it is the Centre's responsibility to find a way to include this in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution..."

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

Context: The Jharkhand Assembly unanimously cleared two Bills, one increasing reservation in vacant government posts and services in the state to 77%, and the second, using land records with 1932 as the cut-off year to determine domicile status and who among the people fit the definition of local residents.

Ninth Schedule

- **About:** It deals with the state acts and regulations of that **deal with land reforms and abolition of the zamindari system.**
  - It also deals with the acts and regulations of the Parliament dealing with other matters.
- **Origin**: 1st **Amendment Act 1951** added the Ninth Schedule to protect the laws included in it from judicial scrutiny on the ground of violation of fundamental rights.
- **Added new article in the constitution:** It was created by the **new Article 31B**, which along with Article 31A was brought in by the government to protect laws related to agrarian reform and for abolishing the Zamindari system.
  - While **Article 31A** extends protection to 'classes' of laws, Article 31B shields specific laws or enactments.
  - **Article 31B** also has a retrospective operation which means that if laws are inserted in the Ninth Schedule after they are declared unconstitutional, they are considered to have been in the Schedule since their commencement, and thus valid.
  - Although **Article 31B excludes judicial review**, the apex court has said in the past that even laws under the Ninth Schedule would be open to scrutiny if they violated Fundamental Rights or the basic structure of the Constitution.
- **List in the schedule**: Contains a list of central and state laws which cannot be challenged in courts.
  - While most of the laws protected under the Schedule concern agriculture/land issues, the list includes other subjects.
- **No blanket protection**: In **IR Coelho v State of Tamil Nadu(2007)**, the Supreme Court ruled that while laws placed under Ninth Schedule cannot be challenged on the grounds of violation of fundamental rights, they can be challenged on the ground of violating the basic structure of the Constitution.
  - Therefore, in 2007, the Supreme Court ruled that the laws included in this schedule after April 24, 1973, are **now open to judicial review.**

LIVEMINT Page 8

PROTECTION OF WOMEN FROM SEXUAL HARASSMENT ACT

(Syllabus: GS Paper 1 - Issue related to Women)

Implement POSH Act effectively: Govt

The union ministry of women and child development (WCD) has directed all the central ministries, department and PSUs to ensure effective implementation the "Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) 2013 (POSH Act)" in their respective departments.

Ivender Pandey, secretary, WCD has directed all government offices and department to ensure that the internal committee at all the work places are constituted and functional.

Pandey has further directed the internal committee to conduct special drive to review the pending cases and take appropriate action before 9 December and has sought action taken report by 20 December.

POSH Act was passed in 2013, defining sexual harassment at workplace, laying down the procedures for a complaint and inquiry, and the action to be taken.

PRIYANKA SHARMA

Context: The union ministry of women and child development (WCD) has directed all the central ministries, department and PSUs to ensure effective implementation the "Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) 2013 (POSH Act)" in their respective departments.

Protection of Women from Sexual Harassment (POSH) Act, 2013

- **About**: The Act was passed in 2013 which **defines sexual harassment**, lay down the procedures for a complaint and inquiry, and the action to be taken.
- **Origin**: In the **Vishakha and others v State of Rajasthan 1997 case**, the Supreme Court gave 'Vishakha guidelines', a set of procedural guidelines for use in India in cases of sexual harassment.
  - These guidelines formed the basis for the The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 ("Sexual Harassment Act").
  - The **Visakha guidelines**, which were legally binding, defined sexual harassment and imposed three key obligations on institutions - prohibition, prevention, redress.
- **Key Features of the act**
  - **Definition of sexual harassment**: Sexual harassment includes "any one or more" of the following "unwelcome acts or behaviour" committed directly or by implication:
    - Physical contact and advances
    - A demand or request for sexual favours
    - Sexually coloured remarks
    - Showing pornography
    - Any other unwelcome physical, verbal or non-verbal conduct of sexual nature.
  - **Definition of a victim**: Aggrieved victim could be a woman "**of any age whether employed or not**", who "alleges to have been subjected to any act of sexual harassment".
    - This meant that the rights of all women working or visiting any workplace, in any capacity, were protected under the Act.
  - **Obligation**: Every employer is required to constitute an **Internal Complaints Committee** at each office or branch with 10 or more employees.
    - The District Officer is required to constitute a Local Complaints Committee at each district, and if required at the block level.
  - **Penal Provisions**: Penalties have been prescribed for employers.
    - Non-compliance with the provisions of the Act shall be punishable with a fine.
    - Repeated violations may lead to higher penalties and cancellation of license or registration to conduct business.

ECONOMIC TIMES

Page 2

EAST ASIA SUMMIT

(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 - International Relations)

India Bats for Free Indo-Pacific at EAS Amid China's South China Sea Claims

HIGHLIGHTING ISSUES Underlines the growing global concerns on food and energy security

G20 Statement in Doubt as US, Russia Fail to Agree at EAS

Russia and the US failed to agree on language for a joint statement following a multilateral summit in Cambodia, making it unlikely G20 will reach a consensus in Indonesia either this week. Russian foreign minister Sergei Lavrov put the blame on the US and its allies for the lack of communique at the 18-nation East Asian Summit, saying on Sunday they "insisted on absolutely unacceptable language regarding the situation in Ukraine" – Bloomberg



Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar with US President Joe Biden in Phnom Penh; US Secretary of State Antony Blinken with external affairs minister S Jaishankar – PTI

DipanjanRoy.Chaudhury
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New Delhi: India on Sunday highlighted the importance of the East Asia Summit (EAS) mechanism in promoting a free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific with freedom of navigation and overflight, in a message to China, which is also an EAS participant.

India's position was highlighted by Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar who led India at the EAS Summit in Cambodia. China's territorial claims in the South China Sea region by creating islands and fortifying them has led to fears that such a move would impact freedom of navigation in one the world's busiest trade routes.

"VP Jagdeep Dhankhar @VPSecretariat participated in the 17th East Asia Summit (EAS) in Phnom Penh today. Underlined the growing global concerns on food & energy security and called for EAS Members' full contribution to the International Year of Millets in 2023," the MEA spokesperson tweeted.

The spokesperson further tweeted, "Highlighted the importance of the EAS mechanism in promoting free, open & inclusive Indo-Pacific with freedom of navigation and overflight." The EAS session was a closed door meet.

Dhankhar and US President Joe Biden had a courtesy interaction at the EAS. Foreign minister S Jaishankar and US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken met in Cambodia and among other issues discussed G20-related developments, Ukraine, Indo-Pacific issues and the energy sector.

Apart from the Asean member states, the East Asia Summit includes India, China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Australia, New Zealand, the US and Russia.

On Saturday, as India and Asean launched the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, Dhankhar announced an additional contribution of $5 million to the Asean-India science and technology fund to enhance cooperation in sectors of public health, renewable energy and smart agriculture.

In a joint statement, Asean-India acknowledged the deep civilisational linkages, maritime connectivity, and cross-cultural exchanges between Southeast Asia and India which have grown stronger over the last 30 years, providing a strong foundation for Asean-India relations.

India and Asean nations also declared to enhance cooperation in the digital economy through a series of regional capacity-building activities in digital transformation, digital trade, digital skills and innovation, as well as Hackathons.

XI-BIDEN FACE-TO-FACE MEETING LIKELY TODAY

US Seeks No Conflict with China: Biden

NUSA DUA: US President Joe Biden said on Sunday his country will maintain open communication lines and seek no conflict with China, ahead of what are expected to be tense talks on a range of issues at the G20 summit in Indonesia this week. Biden and Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping are on Monday set to meet face-to-face for the first time since Biden took office. Jake Sullivan, a national security adviser to Biden, told reporters the meeting could last "a couple of hours". Biden, who landed in Bali island after meeting Southeast Asian and East Asian leaders in Cambodia, said the US would "compete vigorously" with Beijing while "ensuring competition does not veer into conflict". – Reuters

Context: Vice President participated in the 17th East Asia Summit in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

East Asia Summit (EAS)

- **About**: It is the **only leader-led forum at which all key Indo-Pacific partners meet** to discuss political, security and economic challenges facing the region.
- **Origin**: Established in 2005 for strategic dialogue and cooperation on the key political, security, and economic challenges facing the Indo-Pacific region.
  - The concept of an East Asia Grouping was **first promoted in 1991** by the then Malaysian Prime Minister, Mahathir bin Mohamad.
  - During the ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Plus Three Summit held during 2004, there was a consensus among the leaders, to hold the East Asian Summit (EAS).
  - The first summit was held in **Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia** on 14 December 2005.
- **6 priority areas:** Environment and Energy, Education, Finance, Global Health Issues and Pandemic Diseases, Natural Disaster Management, and ASEAN Connectivity.
- **Members**: Total 18 members:
  - **10 member states of the ASEAN:** Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.
  - **8 other countries**: Australia, China, Japan, India, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, Russia and the USA.
    - **India** is one of the **founding members** of the East Asia Summit.
- **Governance**: It can only be chaired by an ASEAN member.
- **India's Initiative:** India's **Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI)**, which aims to forge alliances to establish a secure and stable maritime domain, was presented at the East Asia Summit in Bangkok in November 2019.

TIMES OF INDIA

Page 2

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT AND ACCREDITATION COUNCIL (NAAC)

(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 - Government Policies & Interventions)

NAAC to divulge secret scores for college grade benchmarks

Step Aimed At Transparency, To Help Colleges Know Assessment Basis

Hemali.Chhapia
@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) has decided to open up its secret ledger of maximum scores it awards colleges. It will, for the very first time, declare the highest marks—called benchmarks in NAAC terminology—that it has set aside for each of the parameters it grades colleges on.

Colleges are asked several questions on the basis of faculty, facilities, academic and administrative processes, like the number of PhD faculty, students enrolled, number of computers and books in the library. For each question asked, there is a top score that was a well-kept secret for years.

"We have decided to make public all the benchmarks in the interest of transparency," said executive committee chairman Bhushan Patwardhan at a conference on 'Accreditation: The Way Forward'.

The decision to make the benchmarks of NAAC gradings public was made in the recent executive committee meeting of the Council. "Colleges and universities will now know clearly on what basis they are being assessed. As an immediate measure, all the weightages will also be released," said Bhushan Patwardhan, chairman of the executive committee.

In all, as per NAAC's soon-to-be made disclosure, it marks colleges based on 4,000 points, which is then scaled down to 4 or less depending on the total marks and then the CGPA (cumulative grade point average) and the final grade ranging from A++ to C (being the lowest) is declared. Grade D means a college is not accredited.

The development follows a series of articles in TOI on institutes across India that had surpassed the NAAC score of the Indian Institute of Science, as also about consultants that were being hired by colleges and universities that were assuring a top NAAC grade for a price. Earlier, NAAC scores were not attached to any schemes or benefits. The race for a top score began after a high grade translated to getting autonomy or a university status or getting grants or admitting foreign students.

An insider explained it simply when he said, "If people know that wearing a red jacket will give them high scores, everyone will wear a red jacket on that day."

Similarly, among the many questions asked, if one parameter is on the number of functional MoUs and the institute states it is 28, it will be given a particular score. Now, once NAAC declares its highest score as 50, for instance, every institute will aspire to achieve that number.

Currently, the NAAC has about a dozen manuals, one each for affiliated colleges, autonomous colleges, health university, yoga university, one for open and distance learning. Each manual has parameters that are asked to respective institutes that apply to the NAAC. These manuals also undergo constant upgradation; for instance, the affiliated colleges manual was recently truncated and fewer parameters now make up the manual.

"What essentially happens is that when an institute is awarded an A+ or an A++, consultants study the submission details under every parameter and try to guesstimate the benchmark, and work accordingly with future 'clients' or educational institutes that hire them. This has in turn weakened the assessment process and given rise to the culture of hiring consultants to prepare institutes' documentation or data validation and verification," explained a senior retired vice chancellor. "It is a positive move by the NAAC to open up their Pandora's box."

MOVE TO FORTIFY ASSESSMENT PROCESS

- To date, universities and colleges had no idea about the classified number that NAAC has pre-determined as its established top score
- The idea to make public all the benchmarks was to promote transparency
- Now, for instance, if NAAC declares its highest score as 50, every institute will aspire to achieve that number
- NAAC has a dozen manuals, one each for affiliated and autonomous colleges, health university, yoga university, & open & distance learning institutes



> When an institute is awarded A+ or an A++, consultants study submission details and try to guesstimate the benchmark, and work accordingly with future educational institutes that hire them. This has weakened the assessment process. -- Senior Retd VC

Context: The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) has decided to open up its secret ledger of maximum scores it awards colleges.

National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC)

- **About:** An organisation that **assesses and accredits** higher education institutions (HEIs) in India.
- **Origin**: An outcome of the recommendations of the **National Policy in Education (1986)** which laid special emphasis on upholding the quality of higher education in India.
- **Nodal Agency**: An autonomous body funded by the **University Grants Commission (UGC).**
- **Process of accreditation by NAAC:**
  - **Depends on self-assessment reports:** Institutions keen to be assessed should submit an Institutional Information for Quality Assessment (IIQA) and Self Study Report (SSR) to NAAC. The data submitted will then be validated.
  - **Basis of assessment**: This assessment will be **based on various components,** such as the number of faculties, the number of research journals in the library, and the number of international publications produced by the institute.
- **Eligibility for Accreditation**: Only higher education institutions that are **at least 6 years old**, or from where at least two batches of students have graduated, can apply.
  - The accreditation is valid for 5 years.
  - Aspiring institutes need to be recognised by the UGC and have regular students enrolled in their full-time teaching and research programmes.
  - **Distance education units and offshore campuses are not covered** under the accreditation process.
- **Ratings**: The ratings of institutions range from A++ to C.
  - If an institution is graded D, it means it is not accredited.
- **Current status**: As of now, there are 221 universities and 1750 colleges are NAAC-accredited

PIB

Nov 14

JANJATIYA GAURAV DIVAS

(Syllabus: GS Paper 1 - History)

President of India Smt. Droupadi Murmu to lead the celebrations of Janjatiya Gaurav Divas this year : Shri Arjun Munda

Context: President of India will lead the celebrations of Janjatiya Gaurav Divas November this year.

Key Points

- Government of India has **declared 15th November as Janjatiya Gaurav Divas** to commemorate the contributions of tribal communities in the nation's history and culture.
- This is the **second year** when Janjatiya Gaurav Divas is being celebrated.
- This day is also observed **to honour all the tribal freedom fighters** and to re-energise the efforts for the socio- economic development of the tribal regions and communities.

Janjatiya Gaurav Divas

- **About**: The date was chosen as it was the birth anniversary of Birsa Munda, was an Indian freedom fighter, religious leader and folk hero from the Munda Tribe of the Chhota Nagpur Plateau area.
- **Jharkhand day**: On November 15, the State of Jharkhand celebrates its foundation day.
- The state was carved out of Bihar in 2000 on the birth anniversary of Birsa Munda.

Birsa Munda

- **About**: He was an Indian freedom fighter, religious leader and folk hero from the **Munda Tribe of the Chhota Nagpur Plateau area.**
  - He was referred to as **'Dharti Abba or Father of Earth'** by his followers.
- **New religion**: He was the founder of New religion Birsait which **believed in One God** and encouraged them to revert to their original religious beliefs.
- **Birsa Munda's Rebellion Movements**: Birsa Munda started and led the Munda Rebel Movement south of Ranchi between 1899 and 1900.
  - He introduced the slogan "**Abua Raj Seter Jana, Maharani Raj Tundu Jana**" for his rebel movements. Its means "Queen's kingdom must end and our kingdom must be established".
- **Death**: In March 1900, while fighting the British alongside his guerilla army, Munda was arrested in Jamkopai forest in Chakradharpur. A few months later, on 9 June, he passed away while in custody.

PIB Nov 14

AYUSH SYSTEM OF MEDICINE

(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 - Health)

Ministry to showcase various initiatives under the theme "Ayush for Global Health"

Context: Ministry of Ayush has geared up to showcase its initiatives and various achievements at 41st India International Trade Fair through its pavilion at Pragati, Maidan, New Delhi from 14th to 27th November 2022.

AYUSH System of Medicine

- **About**: AYUSH is the acronym of the medical systems that are being practiced in India such as **Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy.**
- **Basic approach**: These systems are **based on definite medical philosophies** and represent a way of healthy living with established concepts on prevention of diseases and promotion of health.
- **Governance**: In 1995, the **Department of Indian Medicine and Homeopathy** was created under the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
    - In 2003, this **Department was renamed as Department of AYUSH,** with focused attention on education and research in Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, and Homoeopathy.
    - A **separate Ministry of Ayush** was formed in 2014 with a vision of reviving the knowledge of our ancient systems of medicine and ensuring the optimal expansion and propagation of the Ayush systems of healthcare.
- **Initiatives taken by the Government:**
    - The government of India is implementing a centrally Sponsored Scheme of the **National AYUSH Mission (NAM)** for the promotion and development of AYUSH systems.
    - The Ministry of AYUSH has launched a **scheme for Voluntary Certification of Yoga Professionals** which aims at certifying the competence level of Yoga professionals through the certification process and promoting authentic Yoga as a preventive and health-promoting drugless therapy.
    - The Ministry has been organizing **International Yoga Conference** every year since 2015.
    - Under **AYUSH Gram**, AYUSH based lifestyles are promoted through behavioural change, training of village health workers, use of local medicinal herbs and provision of AYUSH health services.
    - **Financial support** is provided through Centrally Sponsored and Central Sector Schemes for various activities in the field of AYUSH including infrastructure development and supply of medicines to the dispensaries and hospitals in the states
    - The **National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB)**, Ministry of Ayush, launched a **"Voluntary Certification Scheme for Medicinal Plants Produce (VCSMPP)**" to boost the Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and Good Field Collection Practices (GFCPs) in medicinal plants.

DTE

Nov 14

GREAT WHITE SHARK

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Env & Eco)



Two orcas have killed, driven Great White sharks from South African waters; here is why

'Port' and 'Starboard' have nearly wrecked South Africa's shark cage watching industry; experts say research is slowly revealing the reasons

NEXT NEWS >

By Rajat Ghai
Published: Saturday 12 November 2022

Context: The webinar **White sharks and orca** in Plettenberg Bay was organised by Leadership for Conservation in Africa, a South Africa-based conservation non-profit.

Great White Shark

- **About**: Also known as the white shark, white pointer, or simply great white, is **a species of large mackerel shark** which can be found in the coastal surface waters of all the major oceans.
- **Scientific name**: Carcharodon carcharias.
- **Distribution and habitat:** Live in almost **all coastal and offshore waters** which have water temperature between 12 and 24 °C (54 and 75 °F).
  - Greater concentrations in the United States (Northeast and California), South Africa, Japan, Oceania, Chile, and the Mediterranean including Sea of Marmara and Bosporus.
  - One of the densest-known populations is found around Dyer Island, South Africa.[
- **Key Characteristics:** The lifespan of great white sharks is estimated to be **as long as 70 years or more**.
  - Great white sharks **can swim at speeds of 25 km/h** for short bursts and to depths of 1,200 m (3,900 ft).
- **Apex predator:** The great white shark is an **apex predator**, as it has no known natural predators other than, on very rare occasions, the orca (a toothed whale belonging to the oceanic dolphin family).
  - It is arguably the **world's largest-known extant macropredatory fish**, and is one of the primary predators of marine mammals, up to the size of large baleen whales.
  - It is the **only known surviving species of its genus Carcharodon**, and is responsible for more recorded human bite incidents than any other shark.
- **Protection status:**
  - **IUCN Red List**: Vulnerable.
  - **CITES**: Appendix II (not necessarily now threatened with extinction but that may become so unless trade is closely controlled)

Indian Sharks

- **River Sharks:** There are six species of River Sharks in the world.
  - Out of these the Ganges sharks are endemic to India.
- **Habitat**: The Ganges Sharks inhabits River Hooghly in West Bengal and Ganga, Mahanadi and Brahmaputra in the states of Assam, Bihar and Odisha.
- **Protection status:**
  - **IUCN Red List**: Critically Endangered
  - **Wildlife (Protection) Act of India, 1972**: Schedule I (high protection status)

DTE

Nov 14

ZOONOTIC DISEASE

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Sci & Tech)

HEALTH

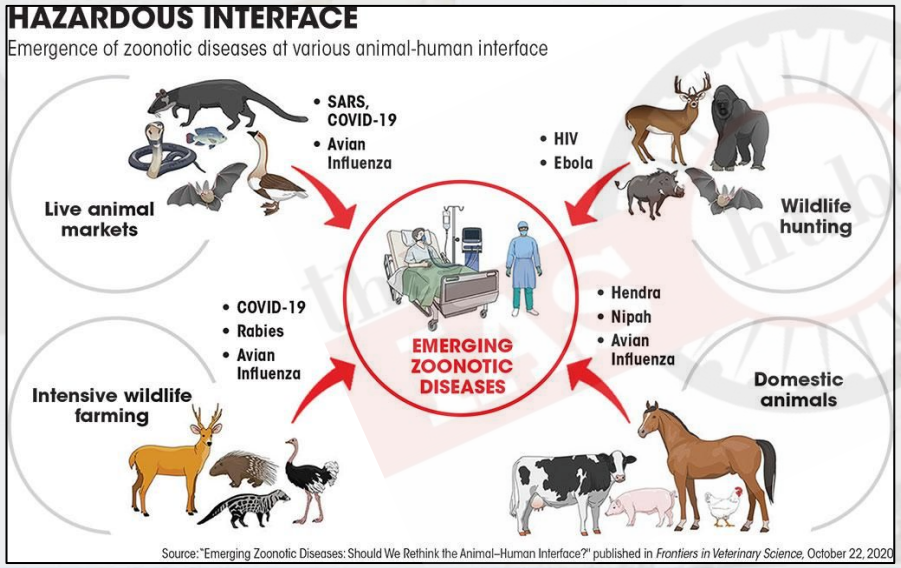
Livestock farming is a crucible for zoonotic disease; here is how

Artificial oceans of pigs and poultry in the hinterlands become mixing vessels for viruses from humans, livestock and wildlife, while other farmed animals simply act as bridging hosts

NEXT NEWS >

By Shagun, Snigdha Das
Published: Sunday 13 November 2022





Context: According to **International Livestock research Institute (ILRI),** India is among the four countries — the other three are Ethiopia, Nigeria and Tanzania — that suffer from the highest zoonotic disease burden, with widespread illness and death.

Key Points

- A UN report released just months after COVID-19 exploded into the world shows that in the last 170 years, **nine epidemics among livestock** have spilled over to people; six of them have emerged since the 1990s.
- Most of the **increase in human and livestock densities** are expected to occur in developing countries where disease surveillance, pest control, sanitation, and medical and veterinary care are limited
- In India, of the 13 livestock diseases monitored by the National Institute of Veterinary Epidemiology and Disease Informatics (NIVEDI), **four are zoonotic**.

Zoonotic Diseases

- **About:** This type of disease passes from an **animal or insect to a human**. Some don't make the animal sick but will sicken a human.
    - Zoonoses may be **bacterial, viral, or parasitic**, or may even involve unconventional agents for the transmission of the disease.
- **Official definition:** WHO in 1959 defined Zoonoses as "those diseases and infections which are naturally transmitted between vertebrate animals and man."
- **Classification of Zoonotic Diseases:**
    - **Etiological agents:**
        - Bacterial zoonoses: e.g. anthrax
        - Viral zoonoses: e.g. rabies
        - Rickettsial zoonoses: e.g. Q-fever
        - Protozoan zoonoses: e.g. toxoplasmosis
        - Helminthic zoonoses: e.g. echinococcosis
        - Fungal zoonoses: e.g. cryptococcosis
        - Ectoparasites: e.g. scabies
    - **Reservoir host**: A reservoir is usually a living host of a certain species, such as an animal or a plant, inside of which a pathogen survives, often (though not always) without causing disease for the reservoir itself.
        - **Anthropozoonosis**: Infections transmitted to men from lower vertebrate animals e.g. rabies.
        - **Zooanthroponosis**: Infections transmitted from man to lower vertebrate animals e.g.diphtheria
        - **Amphixenosis**: Infections maintained in both man and lower vertebrate animals and transmitted in either direction e.g. salmonellosis

THANK YOU!

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