

4 July, 2024

Great Indian Bustards' recovery program

Context: CAMPA has approved Rs 56 crore funding for the conservation program of the Great Indian Bustard (GIB) and the Lesser Florican for the 2024-2029 period.

➤ CAMPA Funding for GIB and Lesser Florican Conservation:

- CAMPA has approved Rs 56 crore funding for the conservation program of the Great Indian Bustard (GIB) and the Lesser Florican for 2024-2029.
- The proposal, prepared by the Wildlife Institute of India (WII), includes targets like rewilding ex-situ bred Bustards, detailed population studies, and developing artificial insemination techniques.

➤ Overview of Great Indian Bustard Conservation Program:

- The GIB is a critically endangered bird found only in India, crucial for grassland habitat health.
- Population decline due to habitat loss, predation, and collisions with power lines.
- Initiatives began in 2012-2013 with Rajasthan and the Environment Ministry's long-term recovery project.
- A funding of Rs 33.85 crore was allocated in 2016 for habitat improvement and conservation breeding.

➤ Achievements at Conservation Breeding Centres:

- Established breeding centres in Ramdevra and Sorsan, Rajasthan, under a tripartite agreement.
- Currently houses a founder population of 40 GIBs, with plans for continued egg collection and breeding.
- Aim to establish a viable captive population before releasing birds into the wild.

➤ Future Plans for GIB and Lesser Florican Conservation:

- Phase from 2024-2029 focuses on upgrading Ramdevra and Sorsan centres and conducting population surveys.
- Introducing artificial insemination techniques and training captive-bred GIBs for eventual release into the wild.

➤ Challenges and Habitat Management:

- Ongoing threats from power lines despite mitigation efforts.
- Habitat restoration and securing release sites critical for ensuring survival.
- Collaboration with local communities essential for sustainable conservation efforts.

➤ Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority

- Established in 2002 by the Supreme Court as the National Advisory Council to oversee compensatory afforestation activities.

- Its role includes monitoring, providing technical assistance, and evaluating compensatory afforestation projects.
- Administers the Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF).
- **Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF):**
 - The CAF Act was passed in 2016 with rules notified in 2018.
 - National and State CAFs were established under the Public Account of India and each state respectively.
 - Managed to utilize funds collected for compensatory afforestation previously overseen by CAMPA.
 - 90% of the CAF money is allocated to states, with the remaining 10% retained by the Centre.

➤ Utilization of CAF Funds:

- Treatment of catchment areas.
- Assisted natural regeneration.
- Forest management.
- Wildlife protection and management.
- Relocation of villages from protected areas.
- Managing human-wildlife conflicts.
- Training and awareness programs.
- Supply of wood-saving devices and related activities.

➤ Compensatory Afforestation Process:

- Required when forest land is diverted for non-forest uses like mining or industry.
- Involves planting forests over an equivalent area of non-forest land or, if unavailable, twice the area of degraded forest land.

Superapps

Context: The buzz around super apps may have waned, but conglomerates like the Adani Group are still keen on their one-stop, multi-service platform, Adani One.

Definition: A super app integrates multiple services into one platform, combining core features with independently developed miniapps that users can access and activate as needed.

Origin: Coined by Blackberry founder Mike Lazaridis, super apps consolidate various functionalities into a single application.

Functionality: Each miniapp within a super app can operate independently but is accessed and managed through the unified interface of the super app itself.

➤ Importance of Super Apps

- **Global Reach:** With over 6.84 billion smartphones globally, super apps like WeChat are used by a substantial portion of the population for daily activities ranging from social networking to financial transactions.

Face to Face Centres



4 July, 2024

- **Growth Projections:** Gartner predicts that by 2027, more than 50% of the global population will be active daily users of super apps, indicating significant market expansion.
- **Regional Adoption:** Popular in regions like Asia, Africa, and Central America, where they cater to smartphone-native populations with integrated services from the outset.

➤ How Super Apps Operate

- **Platform Dynamics:** Super apps serve as a front-end platform where both internal and external developers publish miniapps, expanding the app's functionality and user appeal.
- **Technological Support:** Supported by various tools and platforms, including PaaS, front-end frameworks, and development services, to facilitate the creation and integration of miniapps.
- **User Experience:** Users personalize their experience by selecting and using miniapps according to their needs, enhancing convenience and utility.

Examples of Super Apps: Examples include Alipay, AirAsia, Amap, Careem, Grab, Kakao, Taobao, Tata Neu, Paytm, WeChat, and Zalo, each offering a wide range of services from payments to transportation and entertainment.

Super Apps Landscape In India

Horizontal Super Apps	  	
	   	
Vertical Super Apps	Fintech	 
	Consumer Services	 
	Edtech	 
	Media & Entertainment	 
	Healthtech	  

Source: Inc42

Inc42

Applications of Super Apps: Super apps streamline everyday tasks such as communication, media consumption, financial transactions, transportation, retail, and lifestyle services into a single interface.

➤ Benefits of Super Apps

- **Enhanced User Experience:** By consolidating disparate functionalities, super apps offer seamless and integrated user experiences, boosting customer satisfaction and loyalty.

- **Data Integration:** Providers benefit from prolonged user engagement within the app, facilitating data sharing across miniapps to optimize service delivery and user experience.
- **Customization:** Users can tailor their app experience by adding or removing miniapps based on their preferences and needs.
- **Market Appeal:** Super apps attract a broader user base and investor interest due to their comprehensive service offerings and potential for scalability.

EV charging station guidelines

Context: On June 28, 2024, the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) released updated Guidelines and Standards for Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure.

➤ Overview of Revised Guidelines for Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure:

- **Revision History:** This marks the sixth revision of the guidelines since its initial issuance on December 14, 2018. The updated document consolidates guidelines for installation and operation of EV charging infrastructure.
- **Applicability:** The guidelines apply to individuals or entities (Charge Point Operators CPOs) intending to establish EV charging stations in privately owned, semi-restricted, or public spaces.
- **Global Comparison:** India currently has 15 electric light-duty vehicles (LDVs) per public charging point, a ratio lower than countries like New Zealand (90 LDVs per charger) and Norway (34 LDVs per charger), highlighting the evolving landscape of India's EV adoption.

➤ Key Amendments and Their Impact:

- **First Revision (October 2019):** Introduced flexibility in charger selection, appointing BEE as the Central Nodal Agency (CNA), and outlining roles for discoms in home/office charging setups. Set guidelines for city and highway placements.
- **Subsequent Revisions:** Included tariff regulations, set timelines for discom facilitation, and introduced provisions for land allocation and building bylaws amendments to accommodate charging stations.
- **2024 Amendments:** Streamlined approval processes with a customer-friendly online clearance system, mandated state agencies to conduct annual demand mapping, and enhanced safety and compliance standards.

➤ Technical Specifications and Requirements:

- **Charging Station Standards:** Mandates compliance with Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) for minimum capacities and types of chargers across different vehicle categories.

Face to Face Centres



4 July, 2024

- **Operational Protocols:** Encourages adoption of open communication protocols for demand response and remote monitoring of charging stations.
- **Infrastructure Density Goals:** Sets targets for urban and highway charging station densities to support increasing EV penetration.
- **Tariff Structure and Financial Considerations:**
 - **Tariff Regulations:** Specifies tariffs not to exceed the Average Cost of Supply (ACoS), with differentiated rates for solar and non-solar hours. Requires separate metering for accurate billing.
- **Community and Workplace Charging:** Directives for residential and workplace charging infrastructure, including provisions for shared parking spaces and load management.
- **Regulatory Oversight and Future Directions:**
 - **Government Roles:** Designates BEE as the CNA and mandates state governments to appoint nodal agencies for overseeing EV charging infrastructure development.
 - **Progress Review:** A steering committee under the Ministry of Power reviews progress quarterly, involving stakeholders from BEE, CEA, state agencies, and industry representatives.

NEWS IN BETWEEN THE LINES

Right to Information



Recently, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh stated that nearly 100% of Right to Information (RTI) appeals are being disposed of, with pendency decreasing annually.

About the Right to Information:

- The Right to Information (RTI) Act 2005 is a **fundamental right in the Indian Constitution**.
- It allows citizens to **access records held by the central and state governments**.
- The act was passed by the parliament in **June 2005**.
- Its aim is to inculcate a culture of openness, accountability and participatory governance.
- The Act and its rules outline procedures for requisitioning information, specifying time frames, methods of disclosure, application charges and exemptions for non-disclosure.
- It helps in exposing corruption prevailing in the government systems, bringing the focus on any violation of human rights and highlighting malpractices of government authorities at union or state levels.
- The RTI Act 2005 is enshrined in **article 19(1) of Part 3** of the Indian Constitution.

National Council of Applied Economic Research



Recently, National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) Director General noted that India's public debt is nearly 82% of GDP, but the country doesn't face a debt-sustainability issue due to its high growth rate and the large share of local-currency debt.

About the National Council of Applied Economic Research:

- The National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) is **India's oldest and largest independent, non-profit economic policy research** institution established in 1956.
- The institution **conducts research** on a wide range of **economic issues**, including **macroeconomics, industrial policy, social development**, trade and infrastructure.
- It engages in economic forecasting, **survey-based research**, data collection and analysis and provides policy recommendations.
- It is known for various reports and publications such as the "**India Human Development Survey**" and the "**Quarterly Review of the Economy**."
- Its work focuses on four thematic areas: **Growth, Macro, Trade and Economic Policy; Investment Climate**, Industry, Infrastructure, Labor, and Urban; Agriculture and Rural Development, Natural Resources, and Environment; and **Poverty, Equity, Human Development and Consumers**.
- Its headquarter is in **New Delhi, India**.

Face to Face Centres

DELHI MUKHERJEE NAGAR: 9205274741, 42 | **LAXMI NAGAR :** 9205212500, 9205962002 | **RAJENDRA NAGAR:** 9205274743 | **UTTAR PRADESH PRAYAGRAJ:** 0532-2260189, 8853467068 | **LUCKNOW (ALIGANJ):** 0522-4025825, 9506256789 | **LUCKNOW (GOMTI NAGAR):** 7234000501, 7234000502 | **GREATER NOIDA:** 9205336037, 38 | **KANPUR:** 7887003962, 7897003962 | **GORAKHPUR :** 7080847474, 9161947474 | **ODISHA BHUBANESWAR:** 9818244644/7656949029



dhyeyaias.com

4 July, 2024

NITI Aayog

#SampoornataAbhiyan

Launching on July 4, 2024

Stay tuned!



NITI Aayog is launching Sampoornata Abhiyan, a three-month campaign from today (4th July 2024) till 30th September to undertake a sustained effort to achieve saturation of six key indicators in Aspirational Districts and Aspirational Blocks across the country.

About the NITI Aayog:

- The National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog) is a **policy think tank** and **government organization** that advises the Indian government on policies and programs.
- It was **established in 2015 to replace the Planning Commission**.
- It is based on the 7 pillars of effective governance-**Pro-People, Pro-Activity, Participation, Empowering, Inclusion of all, Equality and Transparency**.
- The composition of NITI Aayog includes the **Prime Minister as Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson appointed by the Prime Minister, a Governing Council comprising Chief Ministers of all states and Lt. Governors of Union Territories**,
- Additionally, it consists of a Regional Council addressing specific regional issues chaired by the Prime Minister or his nominee, **ad hoc membership from leading research institutions, ex-officio membership of up to four members from the Union council of ministers nominated by the Prime Minister**, a Chief Executive Officer appointed by the Prime Minister, and special invitees nominated by the Prime Minister, consisting of experts and specialists with domain knowledge.
- NITI Aayog has launched various initiatives and campaigns, such as: **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), Startup India, Digital India, Transforming Urban India (AMRUT, Smart Cities Mission), Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) localization**, etc.

National Informatics Centre



Recently, the National Informatics Centre (NIC) and the Spices Board of India have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to develop Artificial intelligence (AI) tools for detecting and classifying large cardamom diseases in Sikkim.

About the National Informatics Centre:

- The National Informatics Centre (NIC) is **an agency of the Government of India** established in **1976**.
- It operates **under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)**, Government of India.
- It serves **as the premier ICT (Information and Communication Technology) organization** for implementing e-governance initiatives and providing digital infrastructure support to various government departments.
- NIC's Centers of Excellence focus on advancing technologies such as **Artificial Intelligence (AI), Blockchain and Internet of Things (IoT)** to innovate government services and operations.
- It **develops and deploys e-governance applications**, platforms, and solutions tailored to meet the needs of government agencies.
- It manages the **National Knowledge Network (NKN)**, **supports the Digital India program** and provides cybersecurity services to safeguard government networks.
- The organization **operates a nationwide communication network** linking government offices and institutions at **central, state and district levels**.
- Its headquarter is located in New Delhi.

Face to Face Centres

DELHI MUKHERJEE NAGAR: 9205274741, 42 | **LAXMI NAGAR** : 9205212500, 9205962002 | **RAJENDRA NAGAR**: 9205274743 | **UTTAR PRADESH** PRAYAGRAJ: 0532-2260189, 8853467068 | **LUCKNOW** (ALIGANJ): 0522-4025825, 9506256789 | **LUCKNOW** (GOMTI NAGAR): 7234000501, 7234000502 | **GREATER NOIDA**: 9205336037, 38 | **KANPUR**: 7887003962, 7897003962 | **GORAKHPUR** : 7080847474, 9161947474 | **ODISHA** BHUBANESWAR: 9818244644/7656949029



dhyeyaias.com

4 July, 2024

Place in News

Hungary

Recently, the Hungarian Prime Minister, Viktor Orban, has urged Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to consider a ceasefire to speed up peace talks with Moscow.

Hungary (Capital: Budapest)

Location: Hungary is a **landlocked country** situated in Central Europe.

Political Boundaries: Hungary shares its borders with **Romania** (East), **Austria** (West), **Slovakia** (North), **Ukraine** (Northeast), **Serbia** (South) and **Croatia** and **Slovenia** (Southwest).

Physical Features:

- The highest point in Hungary is **Kekes**, which is located in the **Bukk Mountains** in the northeastern part of the country.
- The major rivers in Hungary include the **Danube**, **Tisza**, **Drava** and **Szamos**.
- Hungary's mineral resources include **bauxite**, **coal**, **natural gas** and various industrial minerals such as **barite**, **gypsum**, and **kaolin**.
- **Lake Balaton** is the largest freshwater lake in Hungary and Central Europe, located in the Transdanubian region.
- **Lake Heviz**, the largest thermal lake in the world is located in Hungary, near the western end of Lake Balaton.

Political System: Hungary is a parliamentary republic with a unicameral legislature called the **National Assembly** or **Országgyűlés**.



POINTS TO PONDER

- Recently, the Appointment Committee of the Cabinet appointed Dr.. B. N. Gangadhar as the head of the National Medical Commission (NMC). Who was appointed as the president of the Medical Assessment and Rating Board? – **Dr. Sanjay Behari**
- Recently, how many new members were appointed to the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) by the Union government? – **Three**
- Which United Nations agency released its annual World Drug Report recently? – **UNODC (UN Office on Drugs and Crime)**
- Environmental organizations recently urged the Forest Department to ensure transparency in a project involving the extraction of Senna spectabilis from which wildlife sanctuary? – **Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary**
- Recently, which wildlife sanctuary did researchers from the Zoological Survey of India record the forest-dwelling frog Xenophrys apatani? – **Talle Wildlife Sanctuary**

Face to Face Centres

DELHI MUKHERJEE NAGAR: 9205274741, 42 | **LAXMI NAGAR :** 9205212500, 9205962002 | **RAJENDRA NAGAR:** 9205274743 | **UTTAR PRADESH PRAYAGRAJ:** 0532-2260189, 8853467068 | **LUCKNOW (ALIGANJ):** 0522-4025825, 9506256789 | **LUCKNOW (GOMTI NAGAR):** 7234000501, 7234000502 | **GREATER NOIDA:** 9205336037, 38 | **KANPUR:** 7887003962, 7897003962 | **GORAKHPUR :** 7080847474, 9161947474 | **ODISHA BHUBANESWAR:** 9818244644/7656949029



dhyeyaias.com