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Time: 45 Min

Date: 22-08-2025

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GENDER DISPARITY IN ORGAN DONATION IN INDIA

Context

- **The National Organ & Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO)** has issued a **10-point advisory** stating that women patients and relatives of deceased donors awaiting organ transplants will get priority as beneficiaries.

Status of Organ Donation

- **Organ Transplantation/ Donation** is a surgical procedure in which an organ/s, tissue or a group of cells are removed from one person and surgically transplanted into another person.

- The **World Health Organization (WHO)** estimates that over **1,30,000** solid organ transplants are performed each year globally, but this meets only about **10%** of the worldwide need.

- An article titled '**India's organ transplant paradox: women donate the most and receive the least**'' noted that as per data released by NOTTO, **63.8%** of all living organ donors from 2019 to 2023 were women.

  - Yet men received the most donated organs, accounting for **69.8%** of the recipients.

Why is there Gender Disparity in Organ Donation?

- **Patriarchal Social Norms:** In many families, women are socially conditioned to be caregivers and are expected to "sacrifice" for the well-being of others.

- **Economic Factors:** Men are usually regarded as the primary breadwinners. Families hesitate to risk their earning capacity by allowing them to undergo organ donation.

- **Neglect of Women's Health:** Male patients are more frequently prioritized for receiving transplants, while female patients remain underrepresented as recipients.

Key Points in NOTTO Advisory

- **Strengthening National Registry:** All hospitals and centres involved in organ/tissue transplantation or retrieval must provide data to the National Registry maintained by NOTTO.

- **Prioritize Donor Families in Need:** Grant priority in organ allocation to near relatives of deceased donors who are also awaiting an organ transplant.

- **Address Gender Disparity:** Provide additional points in the organ allocation criteria for women on the waiting list to counter gender imbalances in transplant recipients.

- **Permanent Posts for Transplant Coordinators:** State governments have been asked to create permanent posts for transplant coordinators in all hospitals performing organ transplantation or retrieval.

- Coordinators play a critical role in counseling donor families, managing documentation, and facilitating smooth transplantation processes.

National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO)

- It is a National level organization set up under the **Directorate General of Health Services**, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

- **Functions:** National Network division of NOTTO would function as apex center for All India activities of coordination and networking for procurement and distribution of Organs and Tissues and registry of Organs and Tissues Donation and Transplantation in the country.

India's Law Related to Organ Donation

- **Transplantation of Human Organs Act 1994:** It is aimed at regulation of removal, storage and transplantation of human organs for therapeutic purposes and for prevention of commercial dealings in human organs.

  - It allows **living donations**, in most cases, from close relatives such as parents, siblings, children, spouse, grandparents, grandchildren.

  - **Altruistic donations** from distant relatives, in-laws, or long-time friends are allowed after additional scrutiny to ensure there is **no financial exchange.**

  - **For donations from unrelated persons**, documents and photographic evidence showing their long-term association or friendship have to be submitted along with all other documents.

- **The Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues (THOT) Rules, 2014,** are a set of rules in India that provide specific guidelines and safeguards under the Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act, 1994, to prevent organ trading and trafficking, promote cadaver donation, and facilitate ethical organ transplantation.

Facts Related to Organ Donation

- **13th August** is observed every year as **World Organ Donation Day** to raise awareness on Organ Donation.

- **Indian Organ Donation Day** was celebrated every year on **November 27** but from 2023, the day is being celebrated on August 3 to commemorate the first successful deceased heart transplant in India on 3rd August 1994.

- NOTTO has declared **July** as the month of Organ donation.

Source: TH

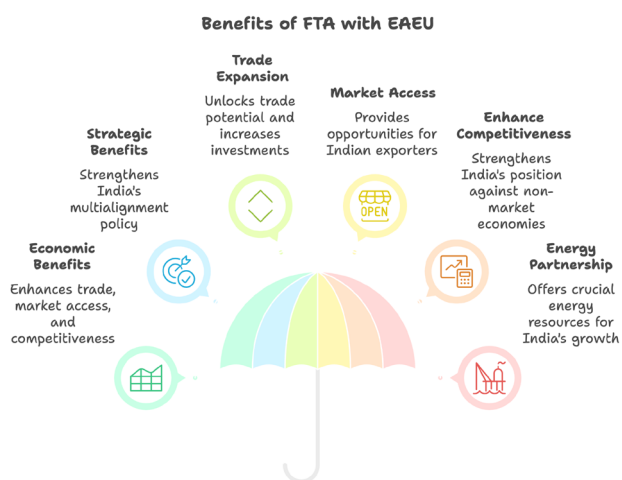## INDIA, EAEU SIGN TOR TO BEGIN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS

In News

- India and the **Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU)** signed the **Terms of Reference (ToR)** to launch negotiations on a **Free Trade Agreement (FTA)** in Moscow.

Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU)

- The Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) is an **international organization** of regional economic integration with international legal personality.

- Its goal is to **enhance cooperation, boost competitiveness, and support the stable development of member economies.**

- It ensures the free movement of goods, services, capital, and labor, and pursues coordinated policies among its members.

- **Members:** It comprises Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic and the Russia

    - The Union membership is open for any state, which shares the goals and principles of the EAEU, on the terms agreed by Member States.

Benefits

- The proposed FTA is expected to **expand market access for Indian exporters,** support diversification into new sectors and geographies, enhance competitiveness against non-market economies, and deliver significant benefits to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

Benefits of FTA with EAEU

Trade Expansion Unlocks trade potential and increases investments

Market Access Provides opportunities for Indian exporters

Enhance Competitiveness Strengthens India's position against non-market economies

Strategic Benefits Strengthens India's multialignment policy

Economic Benefits Enhances trade, market access, and competitiveness

Energy Partnership Offers crucial energy resources for India's growth

Challenges

- India-Russia trade has grown significantly since Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022, especially with Russia now accounting for 35–40% of India's oil imports, up from under 2%.

- However, India's exports to Russia have only modestly increased, creating a trade deficit exceeding $60 billion.

    - To address this, India is revisiting rupee-ruble trade mechanisms after earlier efforts failed, while Russia-China trade has successfully shifted to domestic currencies.

- Meanwhile, **India faces steep tariffs from the US,** prompting exporters to seek alternative markets like Russia for textiles and pharmaceuticals. Currently, India mainly exports engineering goods, electronics, and pharmaceuticals to Russia.

    - Reports warn that rising US tariffs—potentially reaching 50%—could severely impact Indian exports.

Source :PIB

PARLIAMENT PANEL FLAGS AVIATION SAFETY GAPS

Context

- **A Parliamentary Standing Committee** has recommended granting full financial and administrative autonomy to the aviation safety regulator, **the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).**

Key Concerns Identified

- **Lack of Autonomy in DGCA:** The current dependence on the Ministry hampers independent decision-making; without autonomy, DGCA risks being a weak compliance-monitoring body in a fast-expanding market.

- **Severe Staff Shortages in DGCA:** Out of the total sanctioned strength of 1,063 posts at the DGCA, only 553 are currently filled. This represents a "staggering shortfall" of nearly 50% of the required manpower.

- **Recruitment bottlenecks:** The sector is unable to offer industry-matching salaries or direct hiring.

- **Air Traffic Controllers (ATCOs) Crisis:** It also highlighted the shortage of air traffic controllers (ATCOs) and the issue of fatigue among controllers.

    - It also criticised the Airports Authority of India (AAI), which handles the civilian air traffic control function in India, for not adhering to duty time limitations for ATCOs.

- **Operational & Infrastructure Gaps:** The Aircraft induction is outpacing airport expansion, which is straining facilities & safety margins.

- ◆ There is a high recurrence of runway incursions, bird strikes, and engine failures without effective remedial measures.
- **Economic & Strategic Vulnerabilities:** 85% dependence on foreign Maintenance, Repair, Overhaul (MRO) facilities is leading to strategic weakness.
  - ◆ There are helicopter safety lapses in hilly terrains due to a lack of a uniform regulatory framework & specialised pilot training.
- The current mismatch between recruitment and training capacity, coupled with operational overload, poses a direct and ongoing **threat to airspace safety**.

Major Recommendations

- **DGCA Reforms:** Grant full financial & administrative autonomy; allow direct recruitment & competitive salaries.
- **Air Traffic Control (ATC) Safety:** Develop a Fatigue Risk Management System (FRMS); conduct staffing audits; upgrade automation with AI-based systems.
- **Capacity Planning:** Formulate a National Capacity Alignment Plan to synchronise airport growth with airline fleet expansion.
- **Maintenance, repair, and operations (MRO) Policy:** Incentivise the domestic MRO sector via rationalised taxation & policy support.
- **Operational Safety:** Mandate root-cause analysis for high-risk events; strengthen remedial programmes.
- **Helicopter Operations:** Create a uniform national regulatory framework and terrain-specific pilot training.

Regulation of the Aviation Sector in India

- **The Ministry of Civil Aviation** is responsible for the formulation of national policies for the development and regulation of the Civil Aviation sector.
  - ◆ It is responsible for the administration of the Aircraft Act, 1934, Aircraft Rules, 1937, and various other legislations of the aviation sector.
  - ◆ It exercises **administrative control** over attached and autonomous organizations like the Directorate General of Civil Aviation, Bureau of Civil Aviation Security, and affiliated Public Sector Undertakings.

- **The Directorate General of Civil Aviation** is the **regulatory body** primarily dealing with safety issues.
  - ◆ It is responsible for the regulation of air transport services to/from/within India and for the enforcement of civil air regulations, air safety, and airworthiness standards.
  - ◆ It also coordinates all regulatory functions with the International Civil Aviation Organisation.
- **Airports Authority of India (AAI):** The AAI is responsible for managing and developing civil aviation infrastructure, including airports and air navigation services.
- **Bureau of Civil Aviation Security:** The main responsibilities of BCAS include laying down standards and measures with respect to the security of civil flights at international and domestic airports in India.
- **Bilateral Air Services Agreements (BASAs):** India enters into bilateral agreements with other countries to regulate air services between them.
  - ◆ These agreements outline the number of flights, routes, and other operational details between the two countries.

Conclusion

- The committee's findings underscore that, while India's civil aviation sector is on a growth trajectory, its long-term health is contingent on addressing these foundational issues of regulation, human factors, and infrastructure alignment.

Source: IE

INDIA'S VOCATIONAL TRAINING SYSTEM & EMPLOYABILITY

Context

- India needs to address the long-standing gaps in its **vocational education and training (VET) systems** to truly transform its growth model.

About the India's Vocational Training System

- It is one of the largest in the world, designed to equip youth and workers with industry-relevant skills across sectors.
- It is overseen by the **Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE)** and regulated by the **National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET)**.

Key Statistics: India's Vocational Training Landscape

- **Scale & Reach:**
    - Over 14,000 ITIs across India.
    - More than 127 recognized awarding bodies and 68 assessment agencies under NCVET.
    - Training offered in both formal and informal modes, including Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL).
- **Formal Vocational Training (Ages 15–59):** Only about 4.1% of individuals received formal vocational training as of 2023 (rise from 1.8% in 2017).
- **Informal Training Trends**: In 2023, 65.3% of people aged 15–59 had received **no vocational training**, down from 92.6% in 2011.
    - Hereditary training (skills passed down in families) rose from 1.45% in 2017 to 11.6% in 2023.
    - On-the-job training increased from 2.04% in 2017 to 9.3% in 2023.
    - Self-learning also grew, reaching 7.1% in 2023.

Core Challenges

- **Late Integration:** India introduces vocational training only after high school. It limits early exposure and hands-on skill development.
- **Limited Pathways:** Vocational training in India lacks a clear route to higher education, making it a dead-end for many students.
    - It discourages participation and undermines its credibility as a viable career path.
- **Vocational Training Deficit & Low Employment:** In 2022, only 48% of ITI seats were filled, and employment rates among graduates stood at 63%, below the 80–90% achieved in countries like Germany, Singapore, and Canada.
- **Poor Quality and Perceptions:** Outdated curricula, vacant instructor positions, weak monitoring, and minimal industry participation have made VET unattractive.
- **Limited Industry Engagement:** Indian ITIs remain dependent on government funding, while global models rely on strong public–private partnerships.
    - Employer involvement — particularly from MSMEs — is minimal, reducing training quality and job linkages.
- **Structural Barriers:**
    - **Social Stigma:** Vocational careers are often viewed as inferior to white-collar jobs, discouraging youth participation.
    - **Fragmented Curriculum:** Many programs lack updated content and fail to reflect current industry needs.
    - **Insufficient Infrastructure:** Schools and ITIs often lack modern equipment and skilled trainers.

Current Policy Measures

- **Government Initiatives:**
    - **Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY):** It offers short-term courses, sometimes as brief as 10 days.
    - **Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDUGKY)**: It targets rural youth.
    - **National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS):** It encourages industry-based training.
- **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020:** It aims to integrate vocational education from pre-school to Grade 12, breaking the divide between academic and skill-based learning. Key reforms include:
    - Early exposure to trades like carpentry, gardening, and metalwork.
    - Vocational Interest Inventories and Aptitude Tests to guide career choices.
    - Partnerships with local industries and ITIs for hands-on training.
- **Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship:** Targeted schemes like:
    - **Modular Employable Skills (MES)** for school leavers and workers;
    - **National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS)** to boost on-the-job learning;
    - Skill labs and incubation centers under the **Hub-and-Spoke model.**
- Initiatives like **Employment Linked Incentive (ELI) Schemes, the PM Internship Scheme, and ITI Upgradation** focus more on formalisation and infrastructure.
    - There is a need to focus on skilling quality.

Way Forward: Lessons from Global Best Practices

- **Early Integration:** Introduce vocational training within school curricula, as recommended by the NEP 2020.
- **Clear Progression Pathways**: Implement the National Credit Framework to allow movement between VET and academic tracks.

- **Industry Alignment:** Regularly update courses based on local labour market demand, expand training institutes, and recruit qualified instructors.
- **Public–Private Partnerships:** Encourage private training providers, involve MSMEs, and leverage CSR funding for skilling initiatives.
- **Increased Public Spending**: Raise vocational education expenditure from the current 3% to levels seen in advanced economies (10–13%).
- A recent report by the **Institute for Competitiveness,** unveiled by the **Ministry of Skill Development,** emphasizes a demand-driven, market-aligned ecosystem. It recommends:
    - Creating a robust employability index to track outcomes;
    - Recognizing informal and experiential learning;
    - Incentivizing industries to recruit from skill-certified talent pools.

Source: IE

CCPA SLAPS PENALTY ON RAPIDO FOR MISLEADING ADS

In News

- The **Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA)**, India's apex consumer watchdog, has imposed a penalty of 10 lakh on bike-taxi aggregator Rapido for running misleading advertisements and engaging in unfair trade practices.
    - CCPA took suo motu cognisance of two of Rapido's campaigns — **"Guaranteed Auto" and "AUTO IN 5 MIN OR GET ₹50"** and found them to be false and misleading.

Misleading Advertising

- Misleading advertising is the use of false, deceptive, or unsubstantiated claims to promote a product or service. The deception can be intentional, or it can be a result of negligence or omission.

Ethical Frameworks

- **Deontology (Duty-Based Ethics):** From a deontological perspective, misleading advertising is inherently immoral because it violates the duty of honesty. An advertiser has a moral obligation to provide accurate and truthful information to consumers. It doesn't matter if the deception

leads to increased sales or happy customers; the act of violating the duty to be truthful makes it unethical.

- **Utilitarianism**: From a utilitarian perspective, the fine is a positive step. The misleading ads caused a net negative outcome: consumers were deceived, lost trust, and experienced financial harm (even if small).
- **Virtue Ethics:** This framework assesses the character of the moral agent. Rapido's behavior demonstrates a lack of key virtues like honesty, integrity, and fairness. Instead of building a relationship of trust with its customers, the company prioritized short-term gains through deception.

Legal Aspects

- **Consumer Protection Act, 2019** empowers CCPA to take action against misleading advertisements and unfair trade practices.
    - **Section 20:** Allows the authority to pass directions, including stopping unfair practices and refunding money.
    - **Section 21:** Specifically deals with misleading advertisements, allowing penalties against endorsers, manufacturers, and service providers.

Way Ahead

- **Stricter Penalties:** For repeated violations, introduce higher fines and temporary bans.
- **Consumer Awareness Campaign**s: Educate citizens on digital consumer rights.
- **Collaboration with ASCI (Advertising Standards Council of India):** Joint monitoring of misleading advertisements across digital and regional platforms.
- **Use of AI and Data Analytics:** For early detection of misleading claims in advertisements.

Source: IE

═══ NEWS IN SHORT ═══

PIPRAHWA RELICS

Context

- During a recent Assembly session, CM Yogi Adityanath announced that the **Piprahwa relics**, repatriated to India after 127 years, will be returned to their original site in Piprahwa, Uttar Pradesh, with restoration plans underway.

About

- The relics—Buddha's ash, bone fragments, gold ornaments, and gems—were **excavated in 1898 by W.C. Peppé.**

- The government now plans to develop th**e 20-hectare area into a theme park** with a stupa for the relics, meditation zones, and attractions depicting Buddha's early life.

    - The proposed theme park at Piprahwa will be built in front of th**e ASI-protected Piprahwa stupa**, linked to the **Shakya kingdom and Kapilvastu,** Buddha's childhood home.

- **Piprahwa village** is located in **Uttar Pradesh's Siddharthnagar district**, near **Lumbini**—the birthplace of Lord Buddha.

    - It is a lesser-known site on the state's Buddhist circuit.

Source: IE

MACHINE-READABLE VOTER ROLLS

Context

- The Opposition has demanded that machine readable voter rolls be made available to all political parties by the Election Commission (EC), amid allegations of "vote theft".

What are Machine-Readable Voter Rolls?

- Machine-Readable Voter Rolls are electoral rolls that are **available in a searchable, computer-readable text format** (such as text-based PDFs, CSV, or Excel files), instead of the current image-based PDFs provided by the Election Commission (EC).

- This makes it **easier to detect duplicate entries, errors, or irregularities** in the voter list without relying solely on manual checking.

Source: TH

GLOBAL CAPABILITY CENTRES

Context

- American e-commerce major eBay has set up its **first Global Capability Centre (GCC) in India which** will host multiple functions, including **technology and engineering, AI/ML, applied research, product development, product management, and data analytics.**

What are Global Capability Centers?

- Global Capability Centers are designed to **leverage global talent pools and technological advancements** to enhance organizational capabilities and drive business transformation.

- GCCs **connect organizations** to a global pool of **top-tier talent**, equipped with the latest technology and training needed to stay ahead of industry trends, continually innovate, and create sustained growth.

    - GCCs also serve as hubs where technology-enabled talent strategies are implemented to streamline processes and foster innovation.

Source: TH

COAL GASIFICATION

Context

- The Union Minister of Coal and Mines stated that while coal remains vital for India's energy security, the government is pushing coal gasification to reduce environmental concerns from traditional combustion.

What is Coal Gasification?

- Coal gasification is a process that converts coal into synthesis gas (a mixture of carbon monoxide, hydrogen, and other hydrocarbons).

    - This syngas can be used to produce power, liquid fuels, chemicals, and fertilizers.

    - Compared to direct burning, gasification reduces emissions of particulate matter and other pollutants.

Government Initiatives to Promote Coal Gasification

- **Auction Reforms:** Commercial coal block auctions now include a **50% rebate** in revenue share for companies that commit to a minimum threshold of gasification.

- **Long-term Target:** India has set a target of **100 MT coal gasification by 2030**, to diversify coal usage and reduce environmental stress.

- **Financial Incentive Scheme for Coal Gasification: The scheme was launched** in **2024** and has a total outlay of **₹8,500 crore.**

    - It encourages participation from both public and private sector players to establish coal gasification projects across the country.
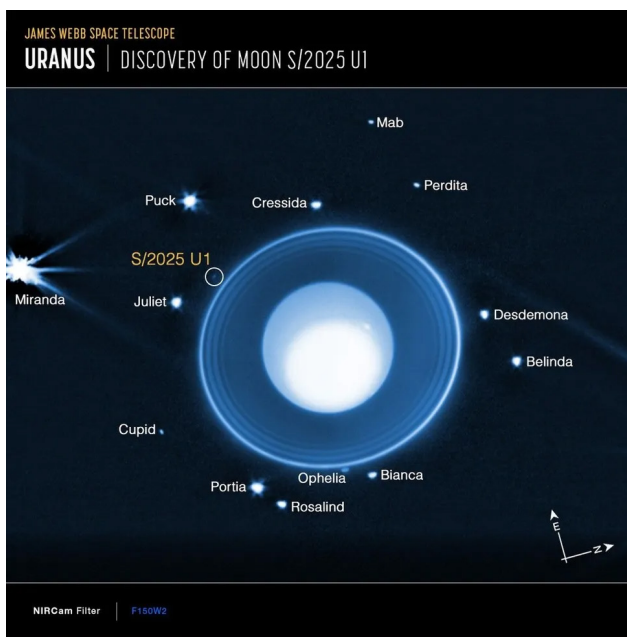
Source: ET

NASA DISCOVERS 29TH MOON OF URANUS, NAMED S/2025 U1

Context

- NASA announced that the James Webb Space Telescope has discovered a new, **29th satellite of Uranus, which was named S/2025 U1.**

About

- The diameter of the Moon is estimated to be only some **10 kilometres.** And orbits the planet at a distance of about **56,000 kilometres.**

JAMES WEBB SPACE TELESCOPE
URANUS | DISCOVERY OF MOON S/2025 U1

- S/2025 UI will get an official name from the International Astronomical Union (IAU) sometime in the future.

Uranus

- Uranus is the seventh planet from the sun, and the third-largest planet in the solar system.

- **Discovery:** First identified as a planet by Sir William Herschel in 1781 (previously mistaken for a star).

- **Composition:** An ice giant, made mostly of hydrogen, helium, water, methane, and ammonia.

- **While Uranus now has a total of 29 moons,** five of them are considered major moons: Miranda, Ariel, Umbriel, Titania, and Oberon.

- **Exploration:** Only visited once—by Voyager 2 in 1986.

Source: AIR

'SUSTAINABLE POWER 1404' EXERCISE

In News

- 'Sustainable Power 1404' was recently launched by Iran in the northern Indian Ocean and Sea of Oman.

'Sustainable Power 1404' exercise

- It is **Iran's first large-scale military drill** since the 12-day war with Israel in June 2025.

- It is a **two-day missile drill** which follows **Iran's recent joint exercise named Casarex 2025 with Russia** and comes in response to Israeli drills simulating strikes on Iranian nuclear sites.

- It highlights Iran's naval and missile strengths amid escalating regional tensions, featuring warships, air units, missile defense systems, and electronic warfare brigades.

  - Precision-strike cruise missiles such as Nasir and Qadir were deployed to enhance combat readiness and deterrence.

> **Do you know?**
> - **Iran maintains two separate naval forces** which are the conventional **Islamic Republic of Iran Navy (IRIN),** which is a part of the traditional army, and **the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps Navy (IRGCN).**
>   - **The IRIN patrols the Gulf of Oman, the Indian Ocean, and the Caspian Sea**, while the **IRGCN controls the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz.**

Source: AIR

NTCA LIMITS TIGER CORRIDORS TO MINIMAL REQUIREMENT

In News

- The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) has reversed its earlier stance by limiting tiger corridors to 32 "least cost pathways" from 2014, despite previously supporting a broader, science-based definition.

Tiger (Panthera tigris)

- Tigers are highly adaptable and can inhabit a diverse range of natural environments, including forests, grasslands, mangrove swamps, and even cold, snowy regions.

- **Distribution**: Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Russia, and Thailand.

- **Protection Status:** Tigers are classified as **Endangered** on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.
- **Status In India :** India's tiger population rose to 3,682 in 2022 from 2,967 in 2018, growing at 6.1% annually in consistently monitored areas
  - The country has 58 tiger reserves covering about 2.5% of its land.
  - The Sundarbans Tiger Reserve in West Bengal has become India's second-largest tiger reserve after the National Board for Wildlife approved an expansion of 1,044.68 sq km.

Related Initiatives

- **Tiger corridors** are crucial for connecting habitats, allowing tiger movement, gene flow, and long-term survival.
  - Under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, any development in or around these corridors needs clearance from the standing committee of the **National Board for Wildlife (SC-NBWL)**.
- The **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)** is a **statutory body** under the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, established under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 (amended in 2006).
  - It is responsible for strengthening tiger conservation in India by issuing advisories and guidelines based on tiger population assessments, ongoing conservation efforts, and expert committee recommendations
- **Project Tiger, initiated in 1973,** has been India's flagship conservation initiative.
  - It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change that supports in-situ tiger conservation in designated reserves.

Source :IE

KHELO INDIA WATER SPORTS FESTIVAL AT DAL LAKE

Context

- Dal Lake, the jewel of Kashmir, is hosting the first-ever Khelo India Water Sports Festival.

About the Festival

- **Organisers:** Sports Authority of India (SAI) & J&K Sports Council.
- **Events:** More than **500 athletes** from **36 states and union territories** will be participating in competitive sports events of **rowing, canoeing and kayaking.**
  - The Festival will also feature demonstration events like **water skiing, dragon boat and Shikara race.**
- **Mascot:** Inspired by the **Himalayan Kingfisher,** symbolising adventure, energy, and connection with nature.
- **Significance:** This festival is a direct result of the Central Government's **Khelo Bharat policy**, aimed at boosting grassroots sports, generating livelihoods and rejuvenating local infrastructure.

About Dal Lake

- **Location:** Situated in Srinagar, Dal Lake lies in the foothills of the **Zabarwan Mountain range**, with the **Shankaracharya Hill** providing a panoramic backdrop.
- **Type:** It is a **Freshwater** urban lake, classified as a flood lung of the **Jhelum River** basin.
- **It is the second-largest lake** in J&K, covering about **18 sq km**, and features a unique wetland ecosystem with **floating gardens ("Raad")** that grow vegetables and flowers.

Source: AIR

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