

Daily Current Affairs

 Date : 02 June 2026



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RAJASTHAN



Rajasthan in the Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation's 'PAIMANA' Report



Why in News?

- Recently, the Union Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation (MoSPI) released data on infrastructure development underway in Rajasthan in the latest flash report of the 'PAIMANA' portal.



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND
PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION



MoSPI through the PAIMANA portal, aims to strengthen monitoring of infrastructure projects, and sectoral performance through technology-enabled platforms, and evidence-based assessment mechanisms.

Monitoring of Central Sector Infrastructure Projects Costing ₹150 Crore and Above

April, 2026



Key Points:

- According to the report, a total of 81 projects worth over ₹2.72 lakh crore are underway in Rajasthan across key sectors such as railways, roads, energy, petroleum, and civil aviation.

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Key Project:

HPCL Rajasthan Refinery Limited (HRRL)

- **Cost:** The total cost of this project, operated under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, is ₹79,459 crore.
- HPCL Rajasthan Refinery Limited (HRRL) was commissioned on September 18, 2013, as a joint venture between Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) and the Government of Rajasthan with equity participation of 74 percent and 26 percent, respectively.
- **Project Approval:** Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas on October 9, 2017.
- This is the first BS-6 compliant project in the country that combines a refinery and a petrochemical complex.
- The refinery has a capacity of 9 million metric tonnes per annum (MMTPA), including 2.4 MMTPA of petrochemical products.
- The Rajasthan Refinery Project will process imported crude oil (7.5 MMTPA) as well as crude oil produced in Rajasthan (1.5 MMTPA).

Railway Infrastructure:

- The North Western Railway operates 23 projects in Rajasthan, costing ₹1,64,998 crore.
- **Western Dedicated Freight Corridor:** Of the 1,506-kilometer-long Western Dedicated Freight Corridor being developed by the Indian Railways, approximately 564 kilometers pass through Rajasthan. This freight corridor, which passes through Gujarat, Haryana, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh, is nearing completion.
- **Extension:** From Jawaharlal Nehru Port Terminal (JNPT), Mumbai to Dadri (Uttar Pradesh).
- **Cost:** ₹1,24,000 crore.
- **Railway Projects Promoting Religious Tourism:** Projects promoting religious tourism in Rajasthan include the construction of new rail lines from Devgarh Madaria to Nathdwara, Nathdwara-Nathdwara Town, Pushkar-Merta City, and Pokhran-Ramdevra.

Energy Transmission Infrastructure:

- The state has 19 energy transmission projects worth over ₹75,000 crore, including multi-state projects.
- The ₹25,000 crore Rajasthan Part-1 Power Transmission Project extends across Rajasthan, as well as Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.
- **Note:** Special transmission infrastructure has been developed by the central and state governments to evacuate power from the solar and wind zones of western Rajasthan (Jaisalmer, Barmer, Jodhpur, and Bikaner).

Aviation Infrastructure:

- The Airports Authority of India (AAI) is currently implementing three significant projects in Rajasthan at a cost of ₹2,874 crore.
 - Kota-Bundi Greenfield Airport
 - Jodhpur Domestic Passenger Terminal
 - Udaipur Integrated Terminal Project

Road Construction:

- The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is implementing 28 road and highway projects in Rajasthan at a cost of approximately ₹18,000 crore.

Other Key Points:

About the PAIMANA Report:

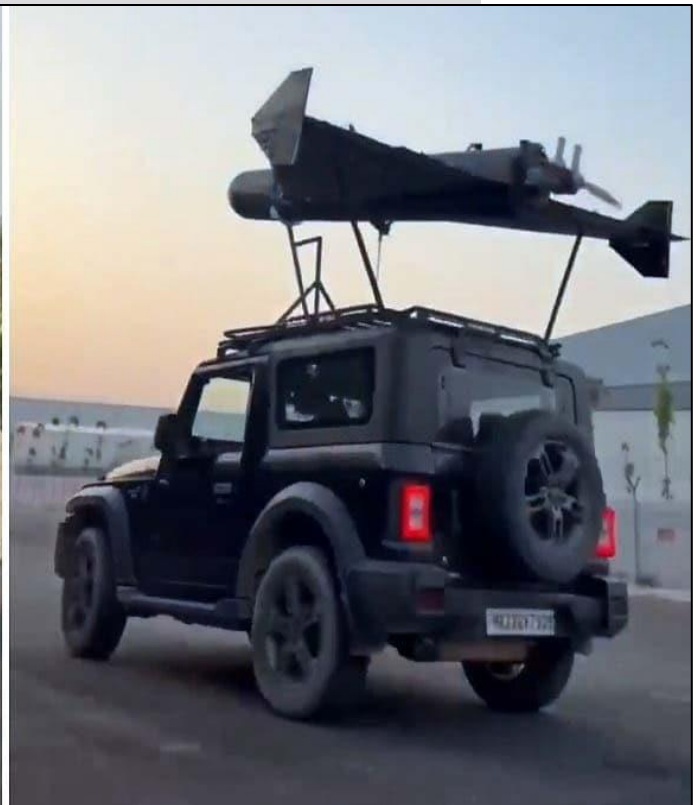
- **Issuer:** Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)
- **Full Name:** Project Assessment, Infrastructure Monitoring, and Analytics for Nation Building (PAIMANA)
- PAIMANA is an integrated digital portal that monitors and evaluates major central infrastructure projects costing ₹150 crore and above.
- **Objective:** To effectively monitor construction, delays, and cost overruns of infrastructure projects and make data-driven decisions.

Successful Test of 'Divyastra Mk-1' Suicide Drone



Why in News?

- Recently, the Indian Army successfully conducted an operational demonstration and test of the indigenous Tactical Loitering Munition (suicide drone) 'Divyastra Mk-1' in Jodhpur.



Key Points:

- **Development:** By the indigenous startup 'Hoverit'.
- **Strike Capability (Range):** This drone can destroy enemy targets at a distance of up to 500 kilometers.
- **Flight Time:** Capable of remaining airborne for surveillance for 5 consecutive hours.
- **Multi-Mission Utility:** It is designed for intelligence gathering, surveillance, reconnaissance missions (ISR), and precise pin-point strikes.

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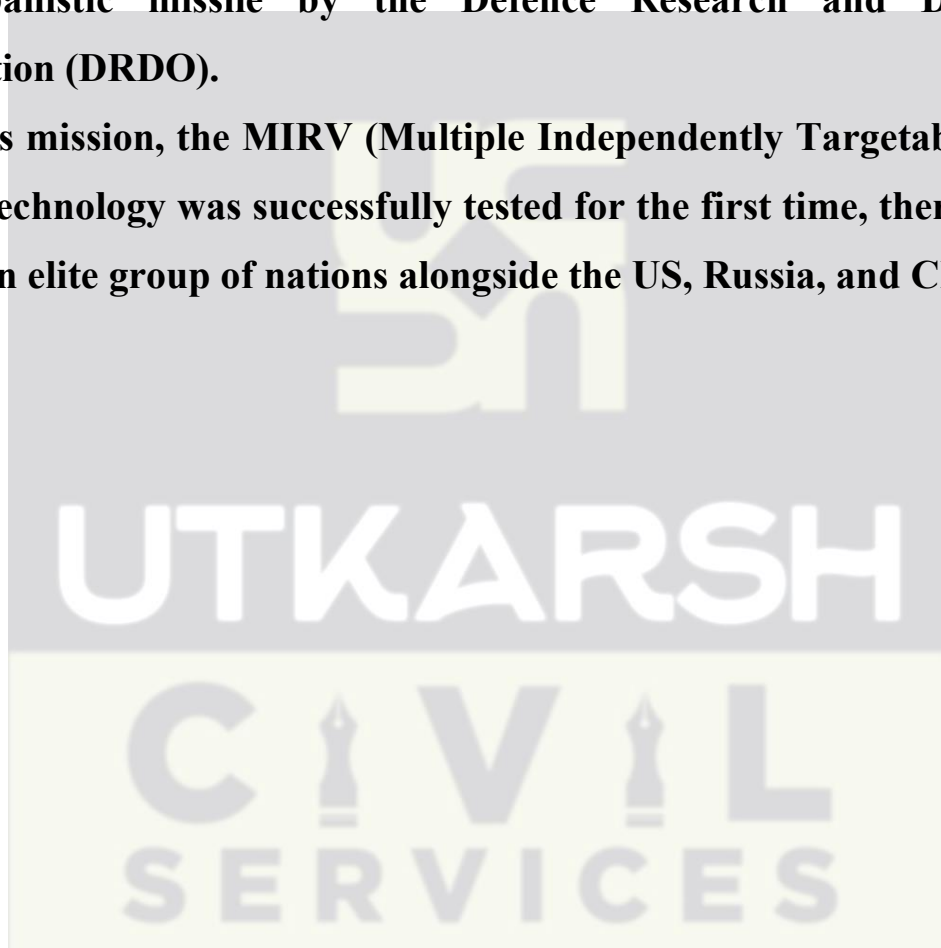
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- This drone is AI-powered and equipped with real-time Electro-Optical/Infrared (EO/IR) sensors and communication relay systems.

Facts for Prelims:

- **Mission Divyastra:** This was a historic flight test of the indigenously developed Agni-5 ballistic missile by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- Under this mission, the MIRV (Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicle) technology was successfully tested for the first time, thereby placing India in an elite group of nations alongside the US, Russia, and China.



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Rajasthan under the 'PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana'



Why in News?

- Under the 'PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana' (PM Surya Ghar: Free Electricity Scheme), a record 26,632 rooftop solar power plants were installed in the state in May 2026.



नवीन एवं
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Key Points:

- **Note:** Since the launch of the scheme in February 2024, this marks the highest number of rooftop solar installations recorded in Rajasthan in any single month to date.
- Regarding the total installations in May 2026: 9,316 consumers in the Jodhpur DISCOM area, 9,204 in the Jaipur DISCOM area, and 8,112 in the Ajmer DISCOM area had solar power plants installed on their home rooftops.
- It is noteworthy that under the 'PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana', approximately 2.17 lakh rooftop solar systems with a total capacity of 830 Megawatts (MW) have already been installed across the state.

Facts for Prelims:

PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana

- **Launch:** By Prime Minister Narendra Modi on February 13, 2024.
- **Concerned Ministry:** Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.
- **Objective:** To provide free electricity to households by facilitating the installation of rooftop solar panels.
- **Target:** To provide solar energy supply to one crore (10 million) households by March 2027.
- The State Government has released the 'Integrated Clean Energy Policy-2024' to promote renewable energy; this policy includes provisions for Net Metering, Gross Metering, as well as Virtual Net Metering and Group Net Metering to boost rooftop solar adoption.

Subsidies provided under the scheme:

औसत मासिक बिजली खपत (यूनिट)	उपयुक्त रूफटॉप सौर संयंत्र क्षमता	सब्सिडी सहायता
	1-2 kW	₹ 30,000/- से ₹ 60,000/-
0-150		
150-300	2-3 kW	₹ 60,000/- से ₹ 78,000/-
> 300	3 kW से ऊपर	₹ 78,000/-

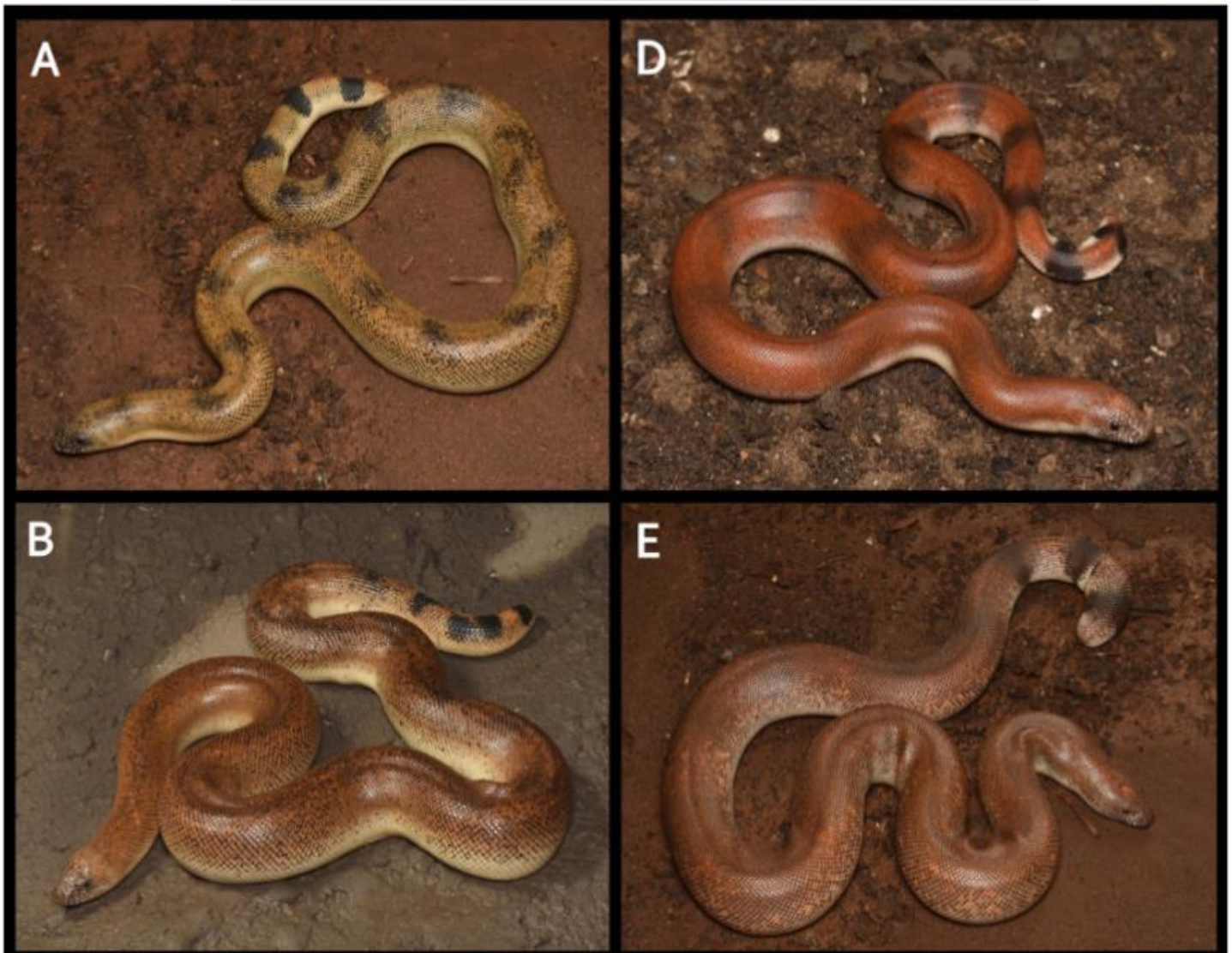
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'Sistan Sand Boa' (*Eryx sistanensis*) Recorded for the First Time in Rajasthan



Why in News?

- Recently, the snake species *Eryx sistanensis* (Sistan Sand Boa) was officially recorded for the first time in the Thar Desert.



Key Points:

- This discovery was published in the Journal of Threatened Taxa.
- This species has been recorded in Churu, Sikar, and the Jorbeed Conservation Reserve in Bikaner.

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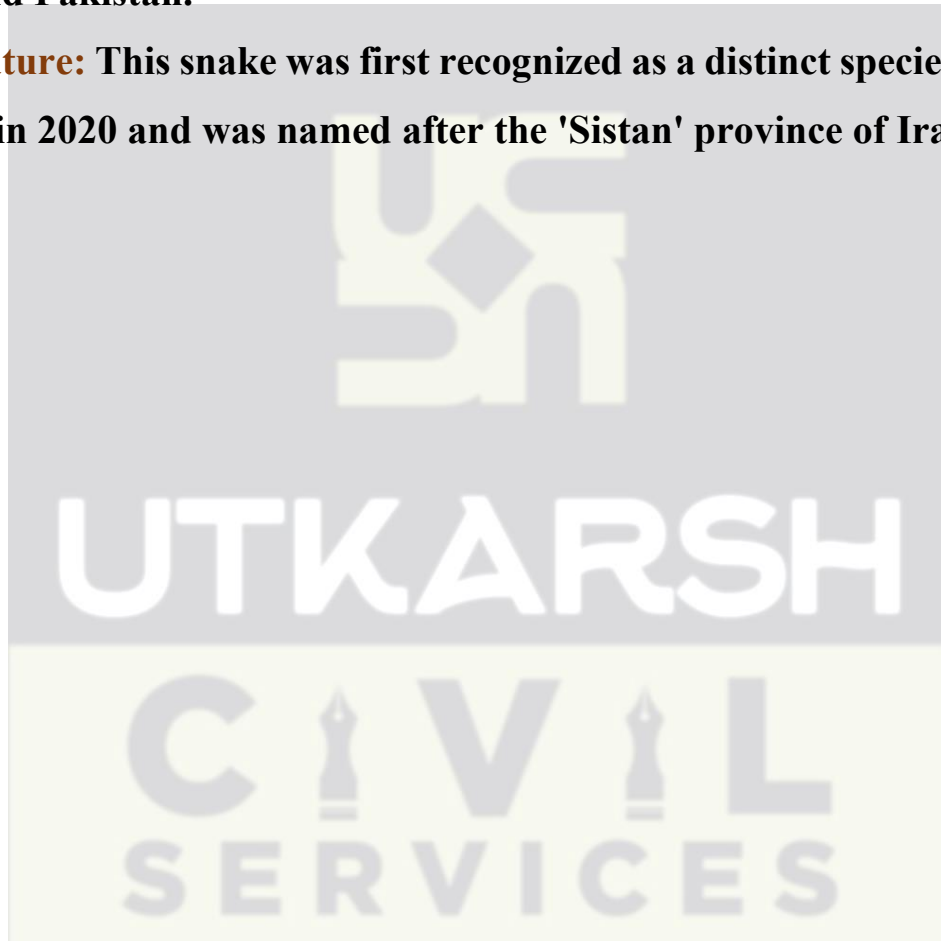
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- With this new discovery, the total number of Boa snake species found in India has risen to four.
- The 'Sistan Sand Boa' is a non-venomous snake.
- **Geographical Distribution:** This species is primarily found in the arid regions of Iran and Pakistan.
- **Nomenclature:** This snake was first recognized as a distinct species by Iranian scientists in 2020 and was named after the 'Sistan' province of Iran.



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Social Security Investment Promotion Scheme (SSIPS)



Why in News?

- A review meeting regarding the 'Social Security Investment Promotion Scheme (SSIPS),' currently operational in Rajasthan, was recently held in Jaipur under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary V. Srinivas.

मुख्य सचिव ने
'सामाजिक सुरक्षा
निवेश प्रोत्साहन योजना'
की प्रगति की समीक्षा
कर दिए निर्देश



- कल्याणकारी योजनाओं का लाभ पहुँचाने के लिए, सभी पात्र गैर-लाभकारी संगठनों के आवेदनों का त्वरित निस्तारण सुनिश्चित करें



Key Points:

- **About the Scheme:** The 'Social Security Investment Promotion Scheme, 2021' is being implemented to encourage the active public participation of non-profit organizations recognized by the government (both Central and State) in the welfare of vulnerable sections within the state (such as children, women, persons with disabilities, beggars/destitute individuals, the homeless, transgender persons, individuals involved in substance abuse, persons living with HIV, and the elderly), as well as in other areas of social concern; furthermore, the scheme aims to provide these organizations with a conducive environment for their work.

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Vulnerable Sections Notified under the Scheme:

- **Women:** Any woman who is a victim of violence, abuse, or harassment under any law; or is mentally ill, in a distressed condition, or is a single woman.
- **Boys/Girls:** Children in need of care and protection, as defined under Section 2(14) of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.
- **Concerned Department:** Department of Social Justice and Empowerment, Rajasthan.

Eligibility Criteria for Organizations:

- The non-profit organization must demonstrate a minimum capital investment of ₹50 lakhs in its establishment or be operational for a minimum of 25 beneficiaries.
- To undertake work related to the care of vulnerable sections and social concerns within the state, the non-profit organization must be registered as a Public Trust and must have been actively working in the relevant social sector for a minimum of three years prior to the application.
- **Facilities/Concessions:** The State Government provides one or more of the following facilities, concessions, or exemptions to the non-profit organization:
 - (i) 100% exemption on land use conversion charges.
 - (ii) 100% exemption on the lease rent for the allotted land.
 - (iii) 100% exemption on regularization charges.
 - (iv) 100% exemption on building construction permission fees. (v) 100% exemption from Stamp Duty.
 - (vi) Exemption from Stamp Duty and Registration Fees on the donation of immovable property by a private individual or institution.
- **Note:** Non-profit organizations having a minimum capital investment of ₹5 crore, or catering to at least 100 beneficiaries, are granted additional facilities / concessions / exemptions in the form of a customized package, over and above the facilities / concessions / exemptions mentioned above.



NEWS IN SHORTS ⚡

S. No.	News
1.	Launch of Nationwide Annual Health Check-up Initiative for Workers ■ The Union Ministry of Labour and Employment has launched a nationwide annual free health check-up initiative for workers aged 40 years and above. ■ Eligibility: All workers aged 40 years or older (who fall under the ESIC framework). ■ State-level Launch: May 7, 2026, by the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), Jaipur.
2.	Rajasthan State Senior Athletics Championship – 2026 ■ Event Dates: May 30 and 31, 2026. ■ Venue: Sadul Sports School, Bikaner. ■ Organizer: Rajasthan Athletic Association. ■ In the championship, Aadesh Garsa from Jhunjhunu and Dona Dhakad from Jaipur won the titles in the Men's and Women's 100-meter races, respectively.
3.	75th Senior State Aquatic Championship – 2026 ■ Venue: Sawai Man Singh Stadium, Jaipur. ■ In the championship, Yogya Singh from Bhilwara and Dakshina Joshi from Tonk set new records. ■ Yogya Singh set a new record in the Women's 100-meter Backstroke with a timing of 1:08.46 minutes, while Dakshina Joshi clocked a time of 2:22.03 minutes in the Women's 200-meter Butterfly.



History and Culture



Holy Relics of Arhat Sariputra and Arhat Maudgalyayana

(Source: PIB)



Why in News?

- The holy relics of Lord Buddha's two chief disciples Arhat Sariputra and Arhat Maudgalyayana have been placed on display at the Gandantegchinlen Monastery in Mongolia. These relics were preserved within the sacred stupas of Sanchi for centuries.



Key Points:

Arhat Sariputra

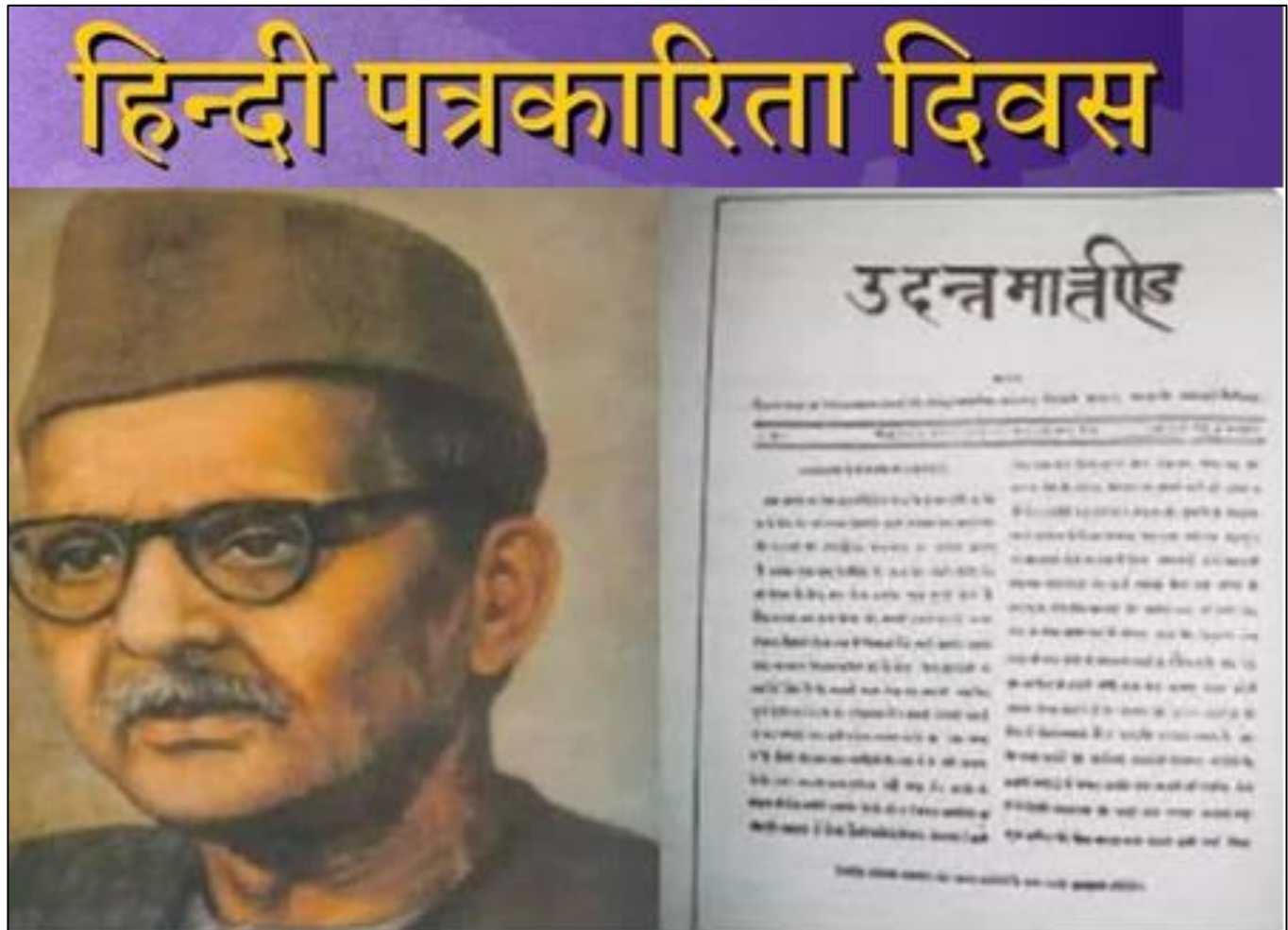
- He is regarded as Lord Buddha's chief disciple (Aggasavaka) and one of the two 'Generals of the Dhamma' (Dhamma-senapatis).
- He was the first human disciple to learn the Abhidhamma teachings directly from the Buddha. He is considered the first teacher to propagate the Abhidhamma tradition.

Arhat Maudgalyayana

- Maudgalyayana was Lord Buddha's second chief disciple.
- He was also known by the name 'Kolita'.
- He served as the teacher to the Buddha's son, Rahula.

Udant Martand

(Source: DD NEWS)



Key Points:

- Hindi Journalism Day is observed on May 30th to commemorate the date of the first publication of the world's first Hindi newspaper, 'Udant Martand'.
- It was published in 1826 in Calcutta under the editorship of Pandit Jugal Kishore Shukla.
- On February 16, 1826, Shukla obtained government permission to launch a Hindi newspaper with the assistance of Mannu Thakur from Banshtala Street, Calcutta.
- This marks the inception of Hindi journalism in India.

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Schemes and Policies



PM Street Vendors' Atmanirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Completes 6 Years

(Source: PIB)



Why in News?

- Launched in June 2020, the PM SVANidhi scheme is a transformative initiative. This initiative assists street vendors in securing their livelihoods by providing them with access to credit facilities from formal institutions.



Key Points:

Key Achievements of the Scheme

- **Credit Assistance:** Credit facilities were extended to approximately 1 crore applicants, and a loan amount exceeding ₹17,800 crore was disbursed on a collateral-free basis.

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- **Large Number of Beneficiaries:** More than 75.5 lakh street vendors were empowered by being linked to formal financial institutions.
- As a result of this scheme, an average annual increase of 20% was recorded in the income of beneficiaries.
- **Women Empowerment:** Through targeted financial assistance, 34.81 lakh women street vendors have benefited from the scheme.
- **Digital Inclusion:** Over 55 lakh street vendors were integrated with digital technologies, thereby promoting cashless transactions.
- **Award:** The scheme was honored with the 'Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration (2023)' in the Innovation category (Central Level).

PM SVANidhi

- **Ministry:** Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- **Type:** Central Sector Scheme.
- **Scheme Period:** June 2020 to 2030.
- It was restructured in 2025, and the lending period was extended from 2024 up to March 31, 2030.
- **Implementation:** Jointly by the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) and the Department of Financial Services (DFS).
- **Objective:** To address the concerns and resolve the challenges faced by street vendors through measures such as providing them with identity recognition and ensuring financial inclusion by offering collateral-free working capital loans.

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INTERNATIONAL



PRAGATI Exercise

(Source: PIB)



Why in News?

- India has concluded PRAGATI 2026 the first multilateral exercise for partners in the Indian Ocean Region.



Key Points:

- PRAGATI stands for: 'Partnership of Regional Armies for Growth and Transformation in the Indian Ocean Region.'

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PRAGATI Exercise

- **Duration:** Two weeks
- **Participating Countries:** India, along with 12 friendly partner nations Bhutan, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, the Philippines, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam have participated in it.
- **Objective:** To foster counter-terrorism capability enhancement, specialized tactical skill development, multinational operational cooperation, and intelligence sharing among the participating armies.



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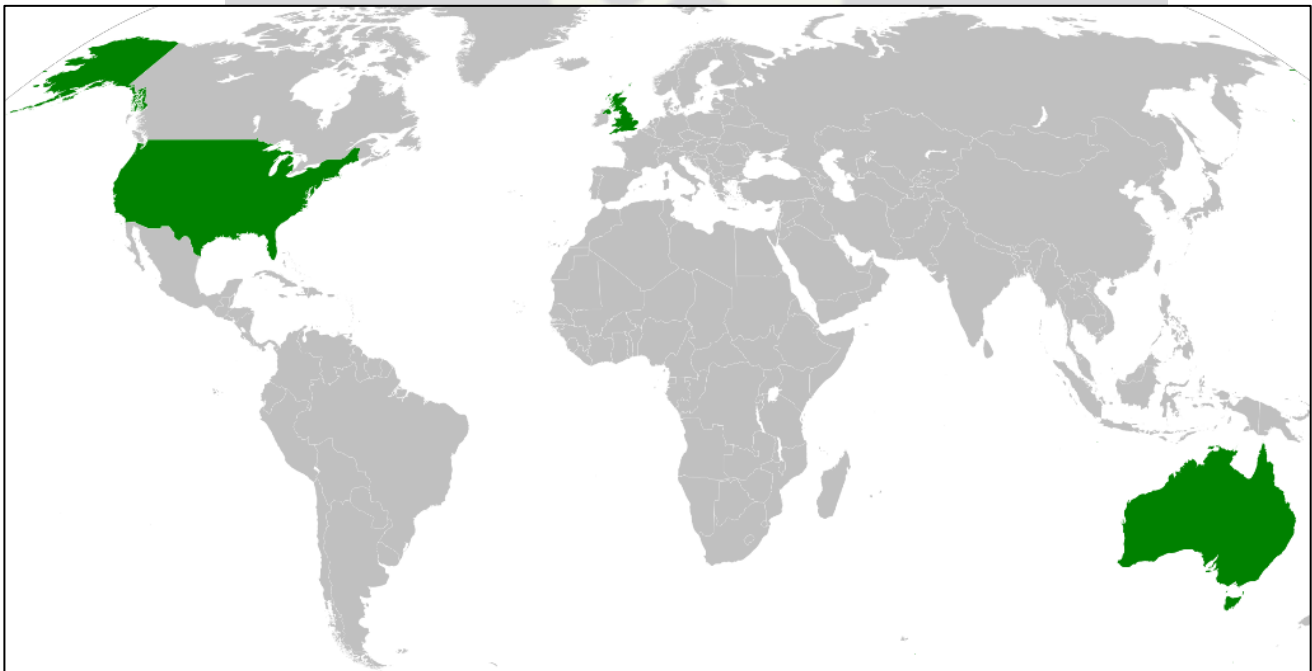
AUKUS

(Source: ECONOMIC TIMES)



Why in News?

- AUKUS member nations have announced plans to enhance cooperation in the maritime domain. This includes the development of state-of-the-art underwater drones and the deployment of U.S. submarines to Australia starting in 2027.



Key Points:

AUKUS

- **Establishment:** It was established in 2021 as a strategic defence alliance between Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States.
- **Objective:** To strengthen defence capabilities, accelerate the integration of technological capabilities, and expand the industrial capacity of the three nations as part of a collective effort to ensure stability in the Indo-Pacific region.

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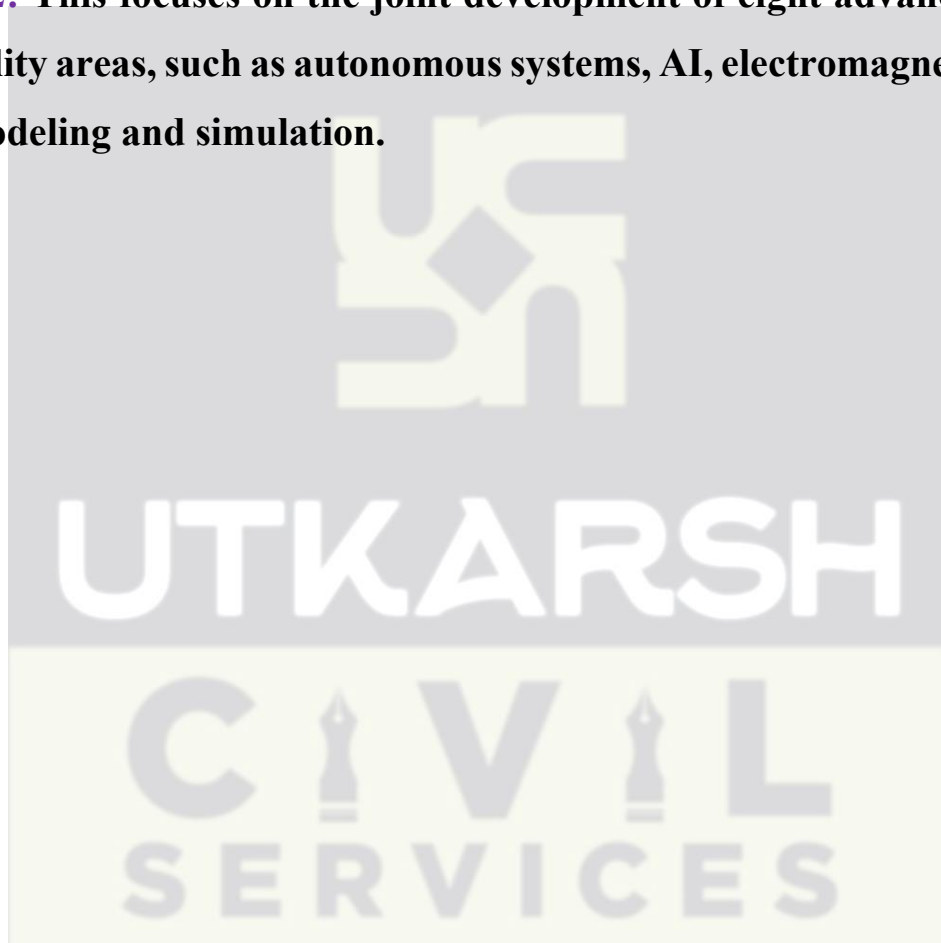
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- **It comprises two key pillars:**
 - o **Pillar 1:** This focuses on developing the shipbuilding capabilities of the three nations, including Australia's development of its first SSN (nuclear-powered attack submarine).
 - o **Pillar 2:** This focuses on the joint development of eight advanced military capability areas, such as autonomous systems, AI, electromagnetic warfare, and modeling and simulation.



Shangri-La Dialogue

(Source: INDIAN EXPRESS)



Why in News?

- India announced the signing of an agreement with Vietnam for the supply of BrahMos missiles during the Shangri-La Dialogue held in Singapore.



Key Points:

- BrahMos is a supersonic cruise missile based on the "fire-and-forget" principle. It has a speed of Mach 2.8, possesses stealth capabilities, and has a strike range of 290 kilometers.

Shangri-La Dialogue

- It is recognized as Asia's premier defence summit. It is organized annually in Singapore by the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS).
- It brings together global policymakers from the defence sector on a single platform to discuss key security-related challenges.
- It serves as a platform for strategic discourse, bilateral dialogues, and defence cooperation.

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India-Oman Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)

(Source: THE HINDU)



Why in News?

- The India-Oman Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) came into force on June 1, 2026.



Key Points:

What is a CEPA?

- A CEPA goes far beyond a traditional Free Trade Agreement (FTA). While traditional FTAs focus solely on goods, a CEPA connects two economies through comprehensive commitments, encompassing preferential trade in goods, liberalization of services, investment protection, intellectual property rights, competition policy, and government procurement.



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Key Features of the India-Oman CEPA

- **Comprehensive Market Access for Indian Exports:** Duty-free access for 99.38% of India's exports, whereas under the MFN regime, this figure stood at only 15.33%.
- Oman is India's second-largest trading partner in the Gulf region and serves as a strategic gateway to the wider GCC market through its advanced port infrastructure.
- Bilateral trade between India and Oman reached US\$ 11.18 billion in FY 2025-26, up from US\$ 10.61 billion in FY 2024-25.
- **Robust Liberalization of Services:** Oman has opened up “127 service sub-sectors”, the most comprehensive offer ever extended to India by any GCC country. 100% direct investment is permitted for Indian companies in Oman's key service sectors.
- **Trade Facilitation Measures:** Oman will accept certificates issued by India's Export Inspection Council (EIC). This will reduce delays in testing and lower transaction costs for exporters.

ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

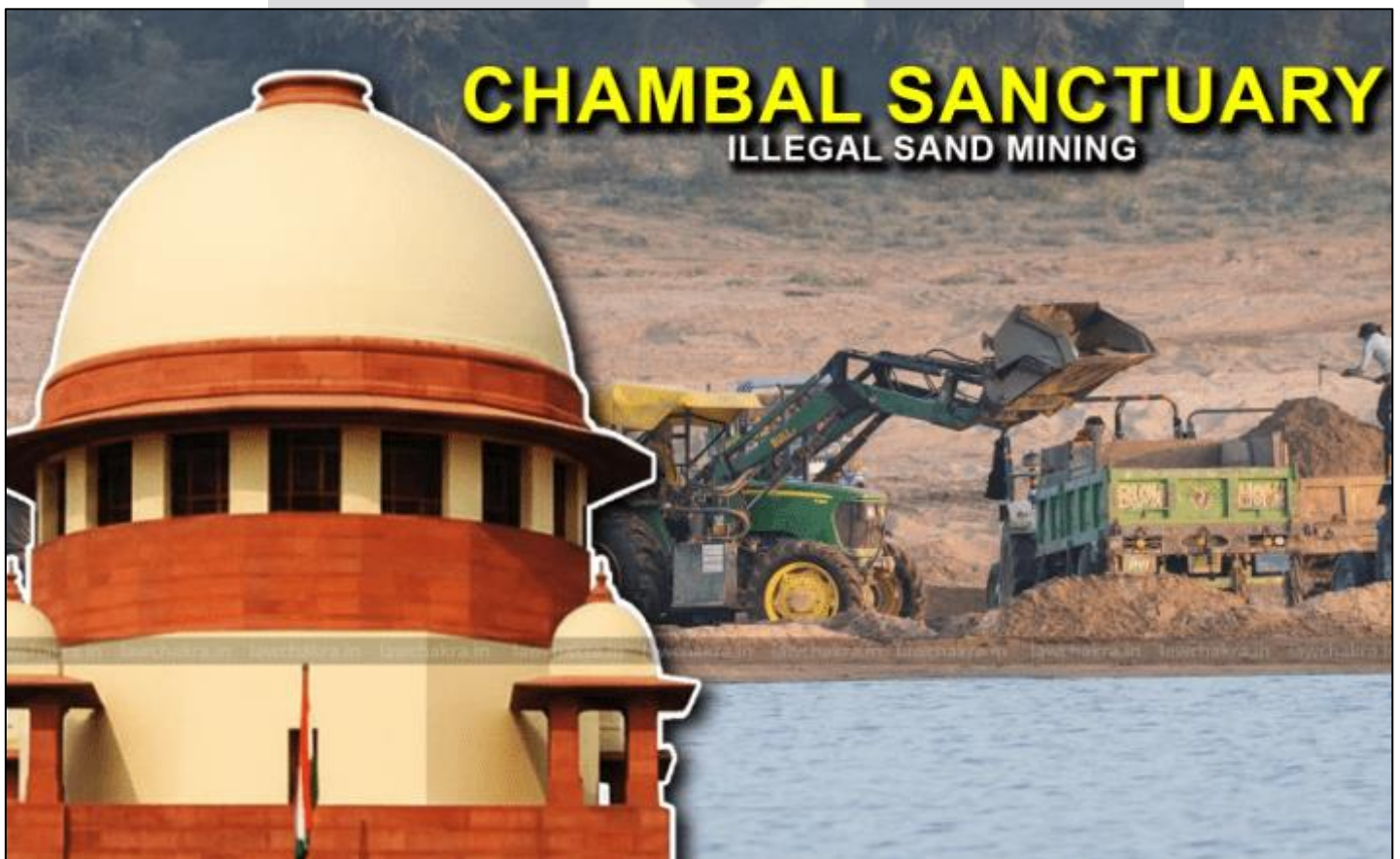
Illegal Sand Mining in the National Chambal Sanctuary

(Source: INDIAN EXPRESS)



Why in News?

- Taking suo motu cognizance of illegal sand mining within and around the National Chambal Gharial Sanctuary, the Supreme Court has criticized the governments of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Uttar Pradesh.



Key Points:

Illegal Sand Mining

- **Legal Status:** Under the 'Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act, 1957', sand is classified as a 'minor mineral'.

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- **Definition:** According to the 'Mineral Concession Rules, 2016', conducting surveying, exploration, or mining activities without the requisite permission constitutes illegal mining.
- Under the MMDR Act, mining or transporting minerals without a valid license, lease, or composite license or violating the rules framed by State Governments under Section 23C falls under the purview of illegal mining.
- **Adverse Effects:**
 - o Environmental damage
 - o Depletion of biodiversity
 - o Law and order issues caused by mining mafias
 - o Socio-economic challenges, such as loss of revenue

Measures to Curb Illegal Sand Mining

- **Guidelines:** The Union Ministry of Environment has issued the 'Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines (2016)' and the 'Enforcement and Monitoring Guidelines (2020)'.
- **Technology-Aided Monitoring:** Surveillance is conducted using satellite imagery through the 'Mining Surveillance System (MSS)'.
- **Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 2017:** These rules mandate the monitoring of the entire mineral mining process.
- **Fines and Penalties:** The 'MMDR Amendment Act, 2015' includes provisions such as heavy fines, imprisonment for up to 5 years, and the establishment of special courts for the speedy disposal of cases.

National Chambal Gharial Sanctuary

- It is a protected area notified in 1979.
- **Location:** It is situated along the Chambal River, near the tri-junction of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Uttar Pradesh.

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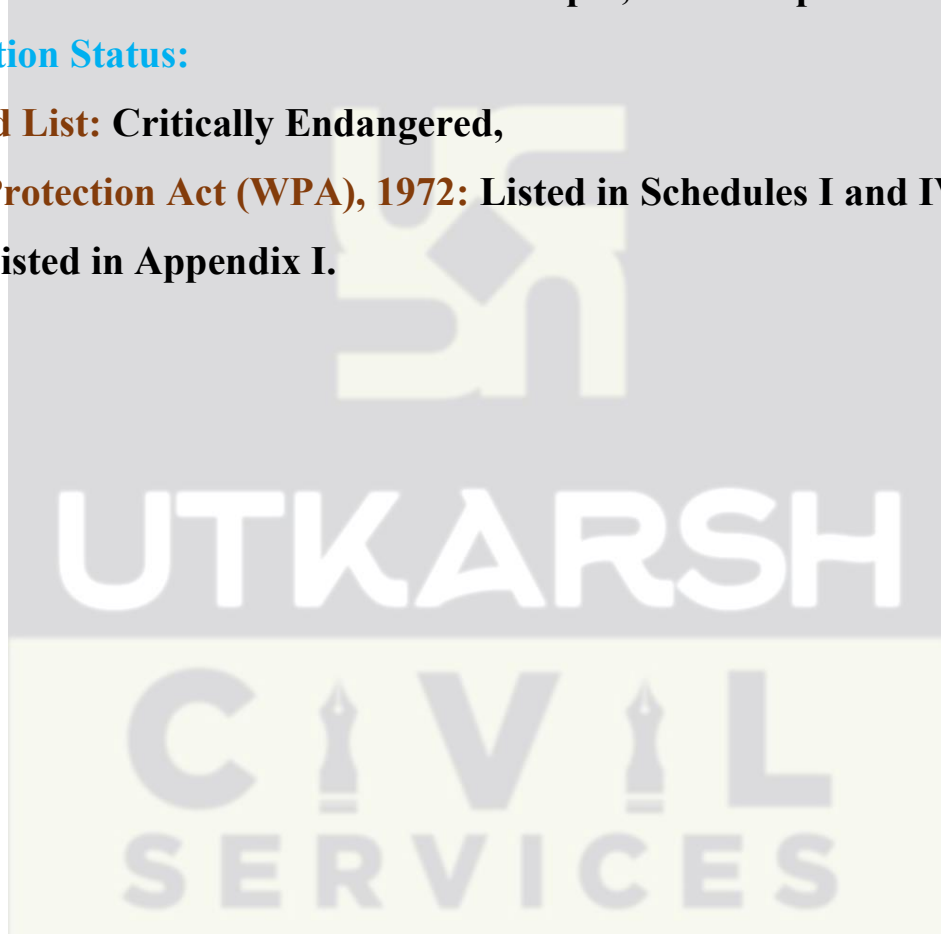
- **Other Species Found:** Creatures such as the Red-crowned Roofed Turtle and the Ganges Dolphin are found here.

Gharial (*Gavialis gangeticus*)

- **Distribution Area:** This species is found in India in the tributaries of the Ganges, the Chambal and Girwa and in Nepal, in the Rapti-Narayani River.

Conservation Status:

- **IUCN Red List:** Critically Endangered,
- **Wildlife Protection Act (WPA), 1972:** Listed in Schedules I and IV,
- **CITES:** Listed in Appendix I.



Banni Grasslands

(Source: THE HINDU)



Key Points:

- Concerns are being raised regarding the potential impact on local communities, biodiversity, and wetlands stemming from a solar project proposed by NTPC Renewable Energy Limited in Gujarat's Banni grasslands.
- Located in Kutch, the Banni grasslands are among Asia's largest natural grasslands and support pastoral communities such as the Fakirani Jats.
- The nearby Chhari Dhand Wetland Conservation Reserve is a Ramsar site of critical importance for migratory birds and local biodiversity.

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