



Most Trusted Learning Platform



Areas of Frequent Questions

- On the basis of International Institutions (Economy, Environment, IR)
- On the Basis of new initiatives
- On the Basis of Species in news
- On the basis of Places in News
- On the basis of Protected Area network in the News
- On the basis of Recent Surveys related to Economy, Forest, Reports & Index, Conventions & Protocols
- On the basis of terms related to Science tech, Economy & Environment related terms

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Topic Wise Approach

A. How to Prepare Schemes?

- Objective ✓
- Ministry ✓
- Inclusion & Exclusion
- Uniqueness from Previously Existing scheme
- Funding Mechanism

B. Report & Index

- Published by ✓
- Frequency of Publication ✓
- Dimensions ✓
- India's Position ✓

Topic Wise Approach

C. International Institutions

- How it originated (with a hint of when it originated)
- What is the mechanism of functioning
- Role of the institution
- Composition
- Role of India (If any)
- Any new initiative

D. Species in news

- Habitat (Also see if it is predominantly found within some protected area)
- Conservation Status – IUCN, WPA, CMS, CITES
- Uniqueness of the species
- If endangered species (Major threat to the species)

Topic Wise Approach

E. Protected Areas in News

- Location (State and Physiography)
- River Passing through it
- Flora and Fauna (More focus on type of vegetation rather than names of all plants)
- Presence of any specific monuments
- Endangered species
- Proximity with any other Protected area (If applicable)

F. National Institutions

- How it has been established? (Law/CA/Executive Resolution)
- Composition & Appointment
- Powers & Functions .

The Bharatiya Sakshya Bill, 2023 (BSB)

It retains most of the provisions of the IEA. These include:

Police confessions:

Any confession made to a police officer is inadmissible.

Confessions made in police custody are also inadmissible, unless recorded by a Magistrate.

However, if a fact is discovered as a result of information received from an accused in custody, that information may be admitted if it distinctly relates to the fact discovered.

Indian
Evidence
Act

The Bharatiya Sakshya Bill, 2023 (BSB)

Key changes proposed in the BSB include:

Documentary evidence:

Under the IEA, a document includes writing, maps, and caricature.

The BSB adds that electronic records will also be considered as documents.

Documentary evidence includes primary and secondary evidence.

Primary evidence includes the original document and its parts, such as electronic records and video recordings.

Secondary evidence contains documents and oral accounts that can prove the contents of the original.

The BSB retains this classification.

The Bharatiya Sakshya Bill, 2023 (BSB)

Oral evidence:

Under the IEA, oral evidence includes statements made before Courts by witnesses in relation to a fact under inquiry.

The BSB allows oral evidence to be given electronically.

This would permit witnesses, accused persons, and victims to testify through electronic means.

The Bharatiya Sakshya Bill, 2023 (BSB)

Admissibility of electronic or digital records as evidence:

Documentary evidence includes information in electronic records that have been printed or stored in optical or magnetic media produced by a computer.

Such information may have been stored or processed by a combination of computers or different computers.

The BSB provides that electronic or digital records will have the same legal effect as paper records.

It expands electronic records to include information stored in semiconductor memory or any communication devices (smartphones, laptops).

This will also include records on emails, server logs, smartphones, locational evidence and voice mails.

Steel Slag road technology

Steel slag is a waste material that is produced during the steel-making process.

It is a molten liquid that solidifies into a complex solution of silicates and oxides after cooling.

Steel slag is produced in large quantities during steel-making operations that use electric arc furnaces (EAFs).

It can also be produced by smelting iron ore in a basic oxygen furnace.

Steel slag is used in a variety of applications, including:

Road base course material: Steel slag is used in the same way as gravel because of its large load-bearing capacity.

→ Silicates and oxides.

~~Steel~~
Steel Slag
→ A waste material
→ formation of steel

Steel Slag road technology

Concrete aggregate: Steel slag is used in the same way as natural aggregate because it contains no clay or organic impurities.

Construction aggregates: Steel slag is used in construction aggregates, rail ballast, and the manufacture of Ordinary Portland Cement.

Agricultural soil amendment: Steel slag is used as an agricultural soil amendment.

Environmental remediation material: Steel slag is used as an environmental remediation material.

Silicate
oxides

Places in News: Katchatheevu Islands

Katchatheevu (meaning 'barren island' in Tamil) is a 285-acre uninhabited isle that was caused by a 14th-century volcanic eruption.

The island was ceded by the Indian administration under Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to Sri Lanka in 1974 in an act of bilateral largesse.

Since the outbreak of the Lankan civil war, in 1983, the island became the crownless battleground for combats between Indian Tamil fishers and a Sinhala-dominated Lankan navy.



National Tiger Conservation Authority

It has been established as a statutory body under the provisions of WPA 1972

the Minister in charge of the Ministry of Environment and Forests—
Chairperson

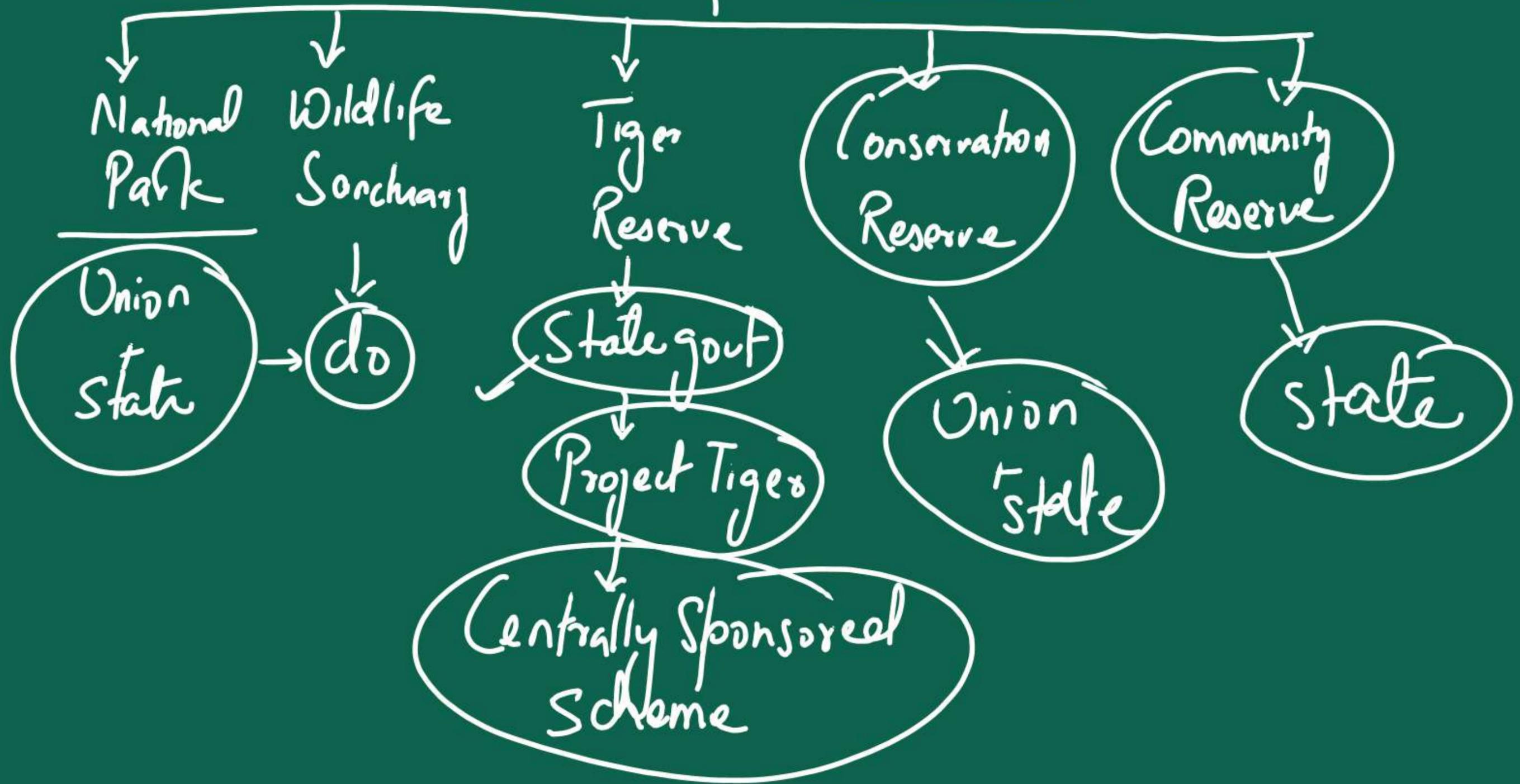
Functions:

to approve the Tiger Conservation Plan prepared by the State Government
evaluate and assess various aspects of sustainable ecology and disallow
any ecologically unsustainable land use such as, mining, industry and other
projects within the tiger reserves

lay down normative standards for tourism activities and guidelines for
project tiger from time to time for tiger conservation in the buffer and core
area of tiger reserves and ensure their due compliance

addressing conflicts of men and wild animals and to emphasise on co-
existence in forest

WPA-1972(2022)



National Tiger Conservation Authority

Who can notify a tiger reserve?

The State Government shall, on the recommendation of the Tiger Conservation Authority, notify an area as a tiger reserve.

No alteration in the boundaries of a tiger reserve shall be made except on a recommendation of the Tiger Conservation Authority and the approval of the National Board for Wild Life

No State Government shall de-notify a tiger reserve, except in public interest with the approval of the Tiger Conservation Authority and the National Board for Wild Life.



NARI SHAKTI VANDAN CONSTITUTION (106TH AMENDMENT) ACT, 2023

Reservation for women:

Act

The Bill reserves, as nearly as may be, one-third of all seats for women in Lok Sabha (Article 330A), state legislative assemblies (Article 332A), and the Legislative Assembly of the National Capital Territory of Delhi (239AA(2)(b)).

Additionally, this reservation will also extend to the seats reserved for SCs and STs in Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies.

Commencement of reservation:

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The reservation will be effective once the census conducted after the commencement of this Bill has been published.

Based on the census, delimitation will be undertaken to reserve seats for women.

The reservation will be provided for a period of 15 years. However, it shall continue till such date as determined by a law made by Parliament.

Rotation of seats:

Seats reserved for women will be rotated after each delimitation, as determined by a law made by Parliament

Rajya Sabha
Legislative Council

PM Vishwakarma Scheme

→ Union funding

PM Vishwakarma is a Central Sector Scheme launched by the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

It aims to provide holistic and end-to-end support to artisans and craftspeople through access to collateral-free credit, skill training, modern tools, incentives for digital transactions and market linkage support.

The key components of the PM Vishwakarma Scheme are:

- i. Recognition: PM Vishwakarma Certificate and ID Card
- ii. Skill Upgradation ✓
- iii. Toolkit Incentive ✓
- iv. Credit Support ✓
- v. Incentive for Digital Transactions ✓
- vi. Marketing Support ✓

→ loan
→ skill
→ tools
→ digital
→ market

PM Vishwakarma Scheme

Eligibility:

1. An artisan or craftsman working with hands and tools in unorganized sector on a self-employment basis, shall be eligible for registration under PM Vishwakarma.

ii. The minimum age of the beneficiary should be 18 years on the date of registration.

iii. The beneficiary should be engaged in the trade concerned on the date of registration and should not have availed loans under similar credit-based schemes of Central Government or State Government for self-employment/business development, eg. PMEGP, PM SVANidhi, Mudra, in the past 5 years.

iv. The registration and benefits under the Scheme shall be restricted to one member of the family. For availing benefits under the Scheme, a 'family is defined as consisting of the husband, wife and unmarried children.

v. A person in government service and their family members shall not be eligible under the Scheme.

PM
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Urm

Salient features of the New Parliament

It has a built-up area of about 65,000 sq m, with its triangular shape ensuring the optimum utilisation of space.

The new building will house a larger Lok Sabha Hall with a capacity of up to 888 seats and a larger Rajya Sabha Hall with a capacity of up to 384 seats. The Lok Sabha may accommodate up to 1,272 seats for joint sessions of Parliament.

The Lok Sabha Hall is based on the peacock theme, India's national bird.

The Rajya Sabha is based on the lotus theme, India's national flower.

A state-of-the-art Constitutional Hall in the building “symbolically and physically puts the Indian citizens at the heart of our democracy”, says the official website.

The building will have ultra-modern office spaces that will be secure, efficient, and equipped with the latest communications technology.

Salient features of the New Parliament

The new building will have large committee rooms with the latest audio-visual equipment and will provide a superior library experience.

A "Platinum-rated Green Building", the new Sansad Bhavan will embody India's commitment towards environmental sustainability, according to the website.

The building will be an embodiment of Indian heritage, reflecting the "vibrance and diversity of modern India, incorporating our cultural and regional arts and crafts".

The new Parliament will be divyang friendly, and people with disabilities will be able to move around freely, says the website.

A Central Lounge that will complement the open courtyard will be a place for members to interact with each other. The courtyard will have a banyan, the national tree, says the website.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage list

What is a World Heritage Site?

World Heritage is the designation for places on Earth that are of outstanding universal value to humanity and as such, have been inscribed on the World Heritage List to be protected for future generations to appreciate and enjoy.

UNESCO) seeks to encourage the identification, protection and preservation of cultural and natural heritage around the world considered to be of outstanding value to humanity.

This is embodied in an international treaty called the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, adopted by UNESCO in 1972.



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage list

The Convention stipulates the obligation of States Parties to report regularly to the World Heritage Committee on the state of conservation of their World Heritage properties.

India ratified it on Monday, 14 November 1977

Today, 191 countries (called States Parties) have ratified the Convention, making it an almost universally accepted set of principles and framework of action.

There are 42 properties from India that are inscribed on the World Heritage List

Two New site added from India

a. Shantiniketan

It was established in rural West Bengal in 1901 by the renowned poet and philosopher Rabintranath Tagore

Santiniketan was a residential school and centre for art based on ancient Indian traditions and a vision of the unity of humanity transcending religious and cultural boundaries.

A 'world university' was established at Santiniketan in 1921, recognizing the unity of humanity or "Visva Bharati".

Shantiniketan was distinct from the prevailing British colonial architectural orientations of the early 20th century and of European modernism

Santiniketan represents approaches toward a pan-Asian modernity, drawing on ancient, medieval and folk traditions from across the region.



Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysalas

The Hoysala temples at Belur, Halebid, and Somanathapur in Karnataka were declared as UNESCO World Heritage Sites

- Chennakeshava temple at Belur
- Hoysaleshwara temple at Halebid
- The Keshava temple at Somanathapur in Mysuru district

The Hoysala temples are known for evolving a distinct style that is ornate with temple architecture following a stellate plan built on a raised platform.

The material used in temple construction is chloritic schist which is also known as soapstone that are soft and amiable to carving.

Soapstone



Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysalas

The construction of the Chennakeshava temple at Belur in commenced during the period of King Vishnuvardhana in 1117 CE and took 103 years to complete

The Hoysaleshwara temple was commissioned in 1121 CE

The Keshava temple at Somanathapur in Mysuru district was commissioned by Somanatha Dandanayaka during the regime of Narasimha III in 1268 CE.





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