



Most Trusted Learning Platform



Questions for Practice

Consider the following statements regarding Global Greenhouse Gas Monitoring Infrastructure

1. It aims to provide better ways of measuring planet-warming pollution and help inform policy choices.
2. It will integrate space-based and surface-based observing systems
3. It has been launched by the United Nation Environment Program.

How many statements given above is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two ✓
- c. All three
- d. None

Questions for Practice

The NAMASTE scheme is a joint Scheme of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment along with

- a. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- b. Ministry of Panchayati Raj
- c. Ministry of Rural Development
- d. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

Questions for Practice

Sickle cell Anemia is

a. Deficiency Disease X

✓ b. Genetic Disease

c. Communicable Disease X

d. None

Questions for Practice

Which of the following is not considered as part of Lithium Triangle?

A. Argentina

B. Bolivia

C. Chile

~~D. Venezuela~~

Questions for Practice

Consider the following statements with respect to Vayulink System

1. It uses NAVIC to send radio communication to the base station when the signals are low.
2. It prevents aircraft collision and provides better combat teaming
3. India has acquired the vayulink system from Israel

How many statements given above is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All three
- d. None

NATO Plus

- The North Atlantic Treaty Organization is a military alliance of 31 nations, mainly the US and some European countries.
- NATO Plus includes five more member nations considered allies of the US – namely: Australia, Japan, South Korea, New Zealand and Israel
- The platform was formalized in 2019 and its primary goal is to enhance defence cooperation among NATO's global partners.

May 2023



NATO Plus

- What is NATO?
- It is an intergovernmental military alliance, established by the North Atlantic Treaty (Washington Treaty) of 1949, to provide collective security against the Soviet Union.
- There are currently 31 member states. Its original members were Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Finland is the newest member.
- NATO membership is open to "any other European state in a position to further the principles of this Treaty and to contribute to the security of the North Atlantic area."
- NATO is committed to the principle that an attack against one or several of its members is considered as an attack against all. This is the principle of collective defence, which is enshrined in Article 5 of the Washington Treaty. So far, Article 5 has been invoked once - in response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks in the United States in 2001.

→ Consensus

BUSINESS READY (B-READY) PROJECT

→ World Bank

→ annually

- The World Bank Group is implementing a new corporate flagship, B-READY
- It aims to measure the business and investment climates in 180 economies worldwide annually
- The report aims to help countries attract investment and increase employment and productivity to accelerate development
- It replaces the World Bank Group's earlier Doing Business project,
- It focuses on ten topics that follow the life cycle of a firm, covering areas like including Business Entry, Business Location, Utility Services, Labor, Financial Services, International Trade, Taxation, Dispute Resolution, Market Competition, and Business Insolvency.
- The Business Ready project has been developed by a team of professionals both from inside and outside the World Bank Group, comprising members from governments, private entities, and civil society organizations.

CITIIS 2.0

- City Investments to Innovate, Integrate and Sustain 2.0 (CITIIS 2.0) is a four-year program that runs from 2023 to 2027.
- It is part of the Government of India's Smart Cities Mission and aims to promote integrated waste management and climate-oriented reform.
- The CITIIS 2.0 will be implemented in 18 cities which would be selected based on a competition.
- It would span over a period of four years from 2023-2027 and has been conceived and would be implemented in partnership with the French Development Agency (AFD), Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW), the European Union (EU), and National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)
- The funding for CITIIS 2.0 would include a loan of Rs 1760 crore from AFD and KfW, split equally, and a technical assistance grant of Rs 106 crore from the European Union

UPSC

Amritsar

Rejuvenation of Auto-Rickshaws in Amritsar through Holistic Interventions(RAAHI)

Ujjain

Mahakal Rudra Sagar Integrated Development Approach (Phase-II)

Surat

Creating 'Wild Valley Biodiversity Park' as City Lungs by Rejuvenation of Existing Wasteland along the Kankara Creek

Hubballi-Dharwad

Green Mobility Corridor

Kochi

E-Health Solution

Puducherry

Our Neighbourhood is Your Neighbourhood - A Participatory Planning Approach for Improvement of Low- Income (remove space between hyphen and "income") Settlements

Dehradun

Child-Friendly City Project

Agartala

Haora River Front Development

Bhubaneswar

B-Active (Be-Active Or Bhubaneswar Active)

Visakhapatnam

Social Inclusion through Modernising Public School as Smart Campus

Amaravati

Basic Infrastructure Development In Low-income Settlements in Amaravati City

Chennai

Model And Smart Corporation Schools



Logistics Performance Index (LPI) Report, 2023, - JNP port

- Context: Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA), India's leading container port, has achieved a global milestone in container cargo handling with a remarkable turnaround time (TAT) of only 22 hours, the World Bank's 2023 Logistics Performance Index (LPI)
- Released by : World Bank
- India's rank - 38/139
- India was ranked 44th on the index in 2018 and has now climbed to 38th in the 2023 listing. India's performance has drastically improved from 2014, when it was ranked 54th on the LPI.
- Till 2018, it was a biennial report.

Logistics Performance Index (LPI) Report, 2023,- JNP port

- The LPI report evaluates countries' trade logistics performance across six dimensions:
- clearance process efficiency,
- quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure,
- ease of arranging competitively priced shipments,
- competence and quality of logistics services,
- ability to track and trace consignments, and
- frequency of on-time consignee deliveries.

Major and Minor Ports in India

- India has 13 major ports and over 180 minor ports. The major ports handle 95% of India's foreign trade
- The major ports are:
- West coast: Mumbai, Kandla, Mangalore, JNPT, Mormugao, and Cochin
- East coast: Chennai, Tuticorin, Visakhapatnam, Paradip, Kolkata, and Ennore, Port Blair
- The Central Shipping Ministry controls and supervises the major ports, whereas the minor ports and intermediate are managed by the state government's maritime board.

UPSC

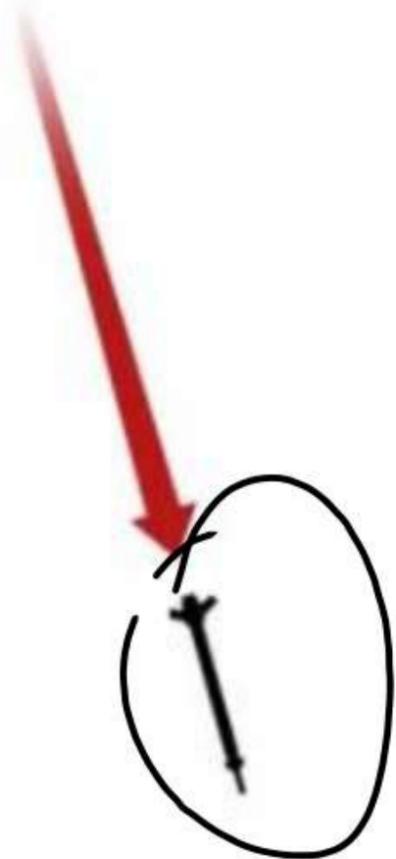


Thermobaric or vacuum bomb

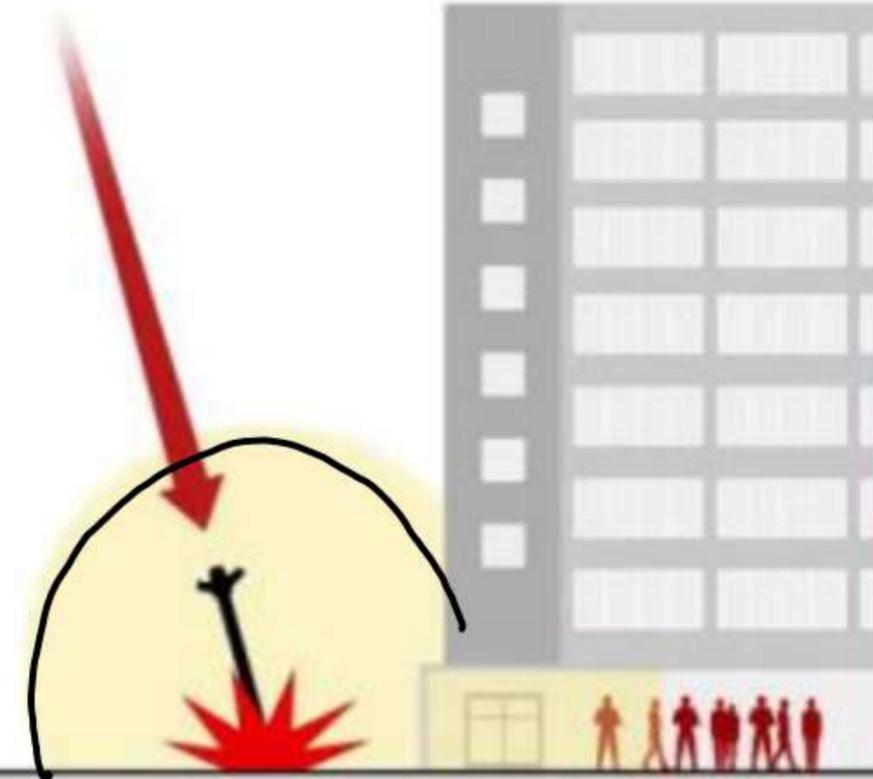
- A thermobaric bomb (also called a vacuum or aerosol bomb - or fuel air explosive) consists of a fuel container with two separate explosive charges.
- This can be launched as a rocket or dropped as a bomb from aircraft. When it hits its target, the first explosive charge opens the container and widely scatters fuel mixture as a cloud.
- This cloud can penetrate any building openings or defences that are not totally sealed.
- A second charge then detonates the cloud, resulting in a huge fireball, a massive blast wave and a vacuum which sucks up all surrounding oxygen.
- The weapon can destroy reinforced buildings, equipment and kill or injure people.

How thermobaric weapons work

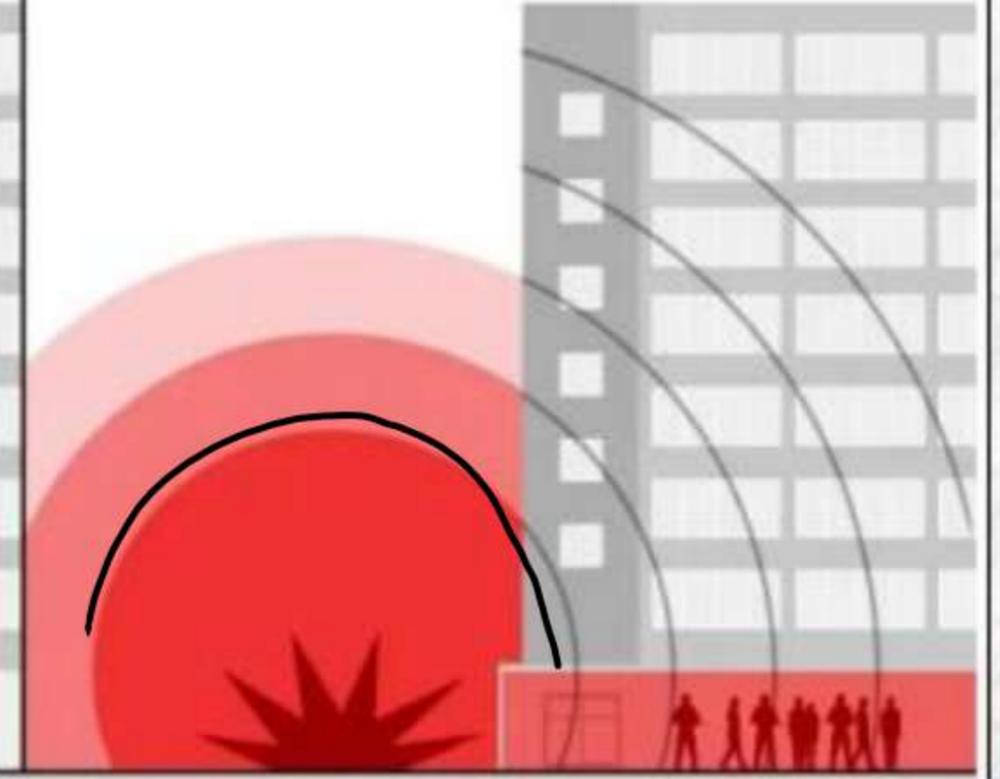
1. Precision-guided bomb strikes target



2. Small explosion releases a cloud of explosive material



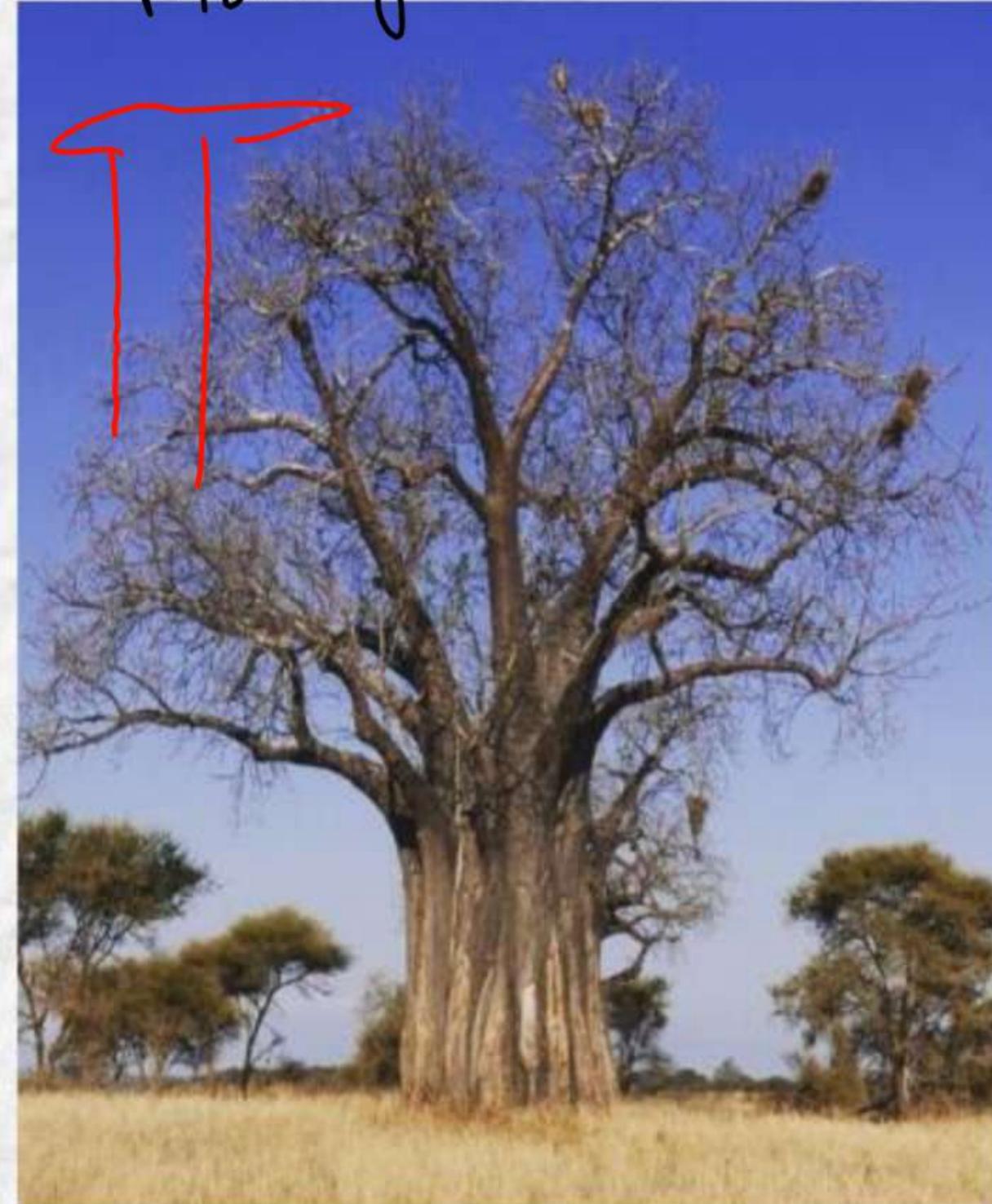
3. Second explosion ignites cloud, causing a massive blast that is capable of vaporising human bodies

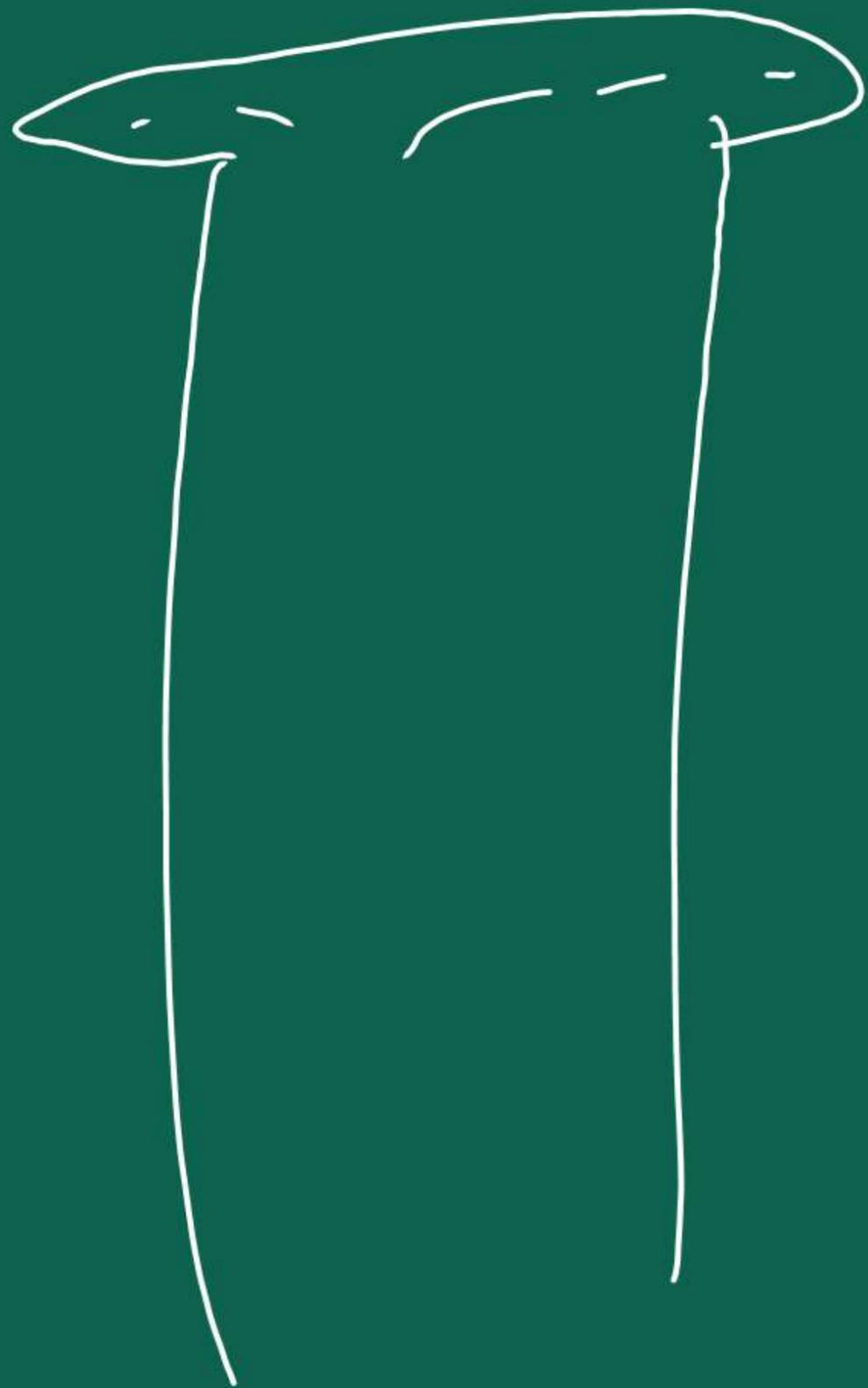


Baobab

- The baobab is a tall, imposing tree that can be found at the Theosophical Society or the museum.
- The baobab is a genus of eight deciduous trees, also known as Adansonia.
- In India, the baobab is also known as Gorakh Imli and Gorakshi.
- The baobab is also known as the upside-down tree because when it loses its leaves, the branches appear like roots, making it look like the tree is upside down.
- In Africa, it is also known as the tree of life
- The baobab is a sacred tree in Africa and Madagascar.
- In India, Mandu in the Dhar district of Madhya Pradesh is the only place where baobab trees are found in abundance
- The tree has medicinal properties and provides some income for the Bhil community, which sells its fruits and seeds to local traders.

Madhya Pradesh





GLOBAL FINANCIAL INNOVATION NETWORK (GFIN)

- The GFIN is the international network of financial regulators and related organisations committed to supporting financial innovation in the best interests of consumers.
- The Global Financial Innovation Network (GFIN) was formally launched in January 2019 by an international group of financial regulators and related organisations.
- The GFIN is a network of over 70 organisations committed to supporting financial innovation in the interests of consumers.
- It seeks to provide a more efficient way for innovative firms to interact with regulators, helping them navigate between countries as they look to scale new ideas.
- This includes the ability to apply to join a pilot for firms wishing to test innovative products, services or business models across more than one jurisdiction.
- The GFIN also aims to create a new framework for co-operation between financial services regulators on innovation related topics, sharing different experiences and approaches.

ARCTIC AMPLIFICATION

- The Arctic is warming twice to three times as fast as the global rate due to the unique features in the Arctic climate system—a phenomenon known as Arctic amplification
- Arctic sea ice retreat has accelerated over the past 30 years, and most models predict the Arctic could first become ice-free by mid-century
- A growing body of evidence suggests that rapid warming in the Arctic can destabilize the tropospheric jet stream and stratospheric polar vortex, forcing cold Arctic air to mid-latitude regions such as the United States.
- A warmer Arctic may be causing wintertime weather to get "stuck" more often, with cold air diving south and warm air heading north.
- As the earth's natural air conditioner, white sea ice moderates solar heating by increasing the reflectivity of Earth's surface and decreasing the amount of heat that would otherwise be absorbed by darker ice-free Arctic seas.

Albedo

Possible Consequences of Arctic Amplification

- (i) Impacts on trade winds ✓
- (ii) " " " (cloud formation)
- (iii) " " " Season ✓
- (iv) loss of entire biodiversity of Arctic X
- (v) Increase in Sea Level ✓
- (vi) No monsoon rainfall in India X

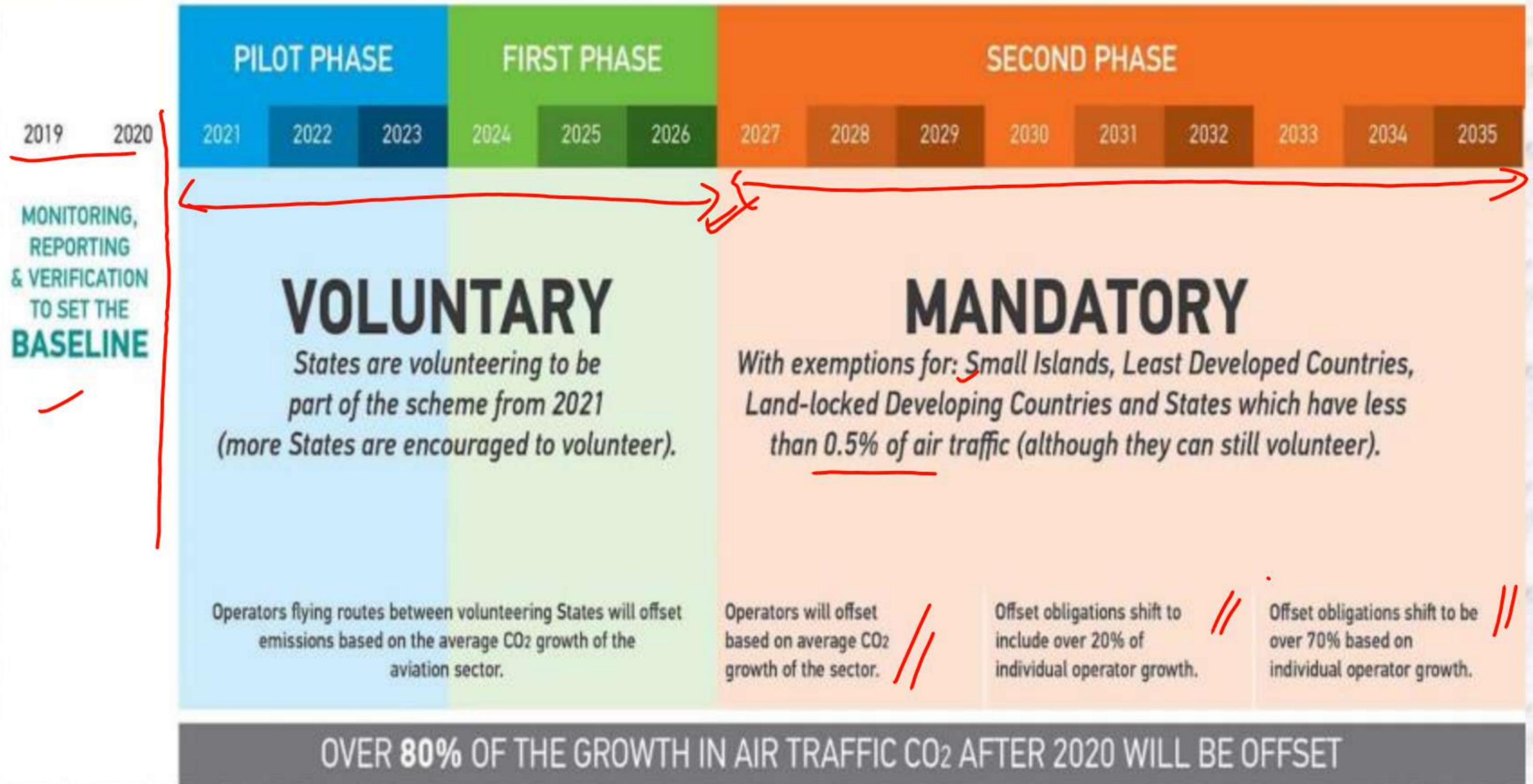
ARCTIC AMPLIFICATION

- **Melting sea ice also releases greenhouse gases from thawing permafrost and frozen methane from the ocean bottom**
- **Sea ice loss is the dominant driver of Arctic amplification, but there are other factors that contribute to the Arctic's energy imbalance.**
- **Some additional factors include increases in radiation from greenhouse gases, atmospheric water vapor, and cloud cover as well as changes in ocean heat content and atmospheric circulation patterns.**

CORSIA plan- The Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation

- It is a global plan to reduce carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions from international flights.
- It aims to stabilize net CO2 emissions at 2020 levels
- CORSIA uses measures such as carbon offsetting, carbon credits, and sustainable aviation fuel.
- It's the world's first mandatory sector-specific compliance carbon pricing scheme
- It is anticipated that CORSIA will mitigate around 2.5 billion tonnes of CO2 between 2021 and 2035
- CORSIA only applies to international flights. Domestic emissions fall under the purview of another UN agency, the UNFCCC, and are covered by the Paris Agreement.

UPSC

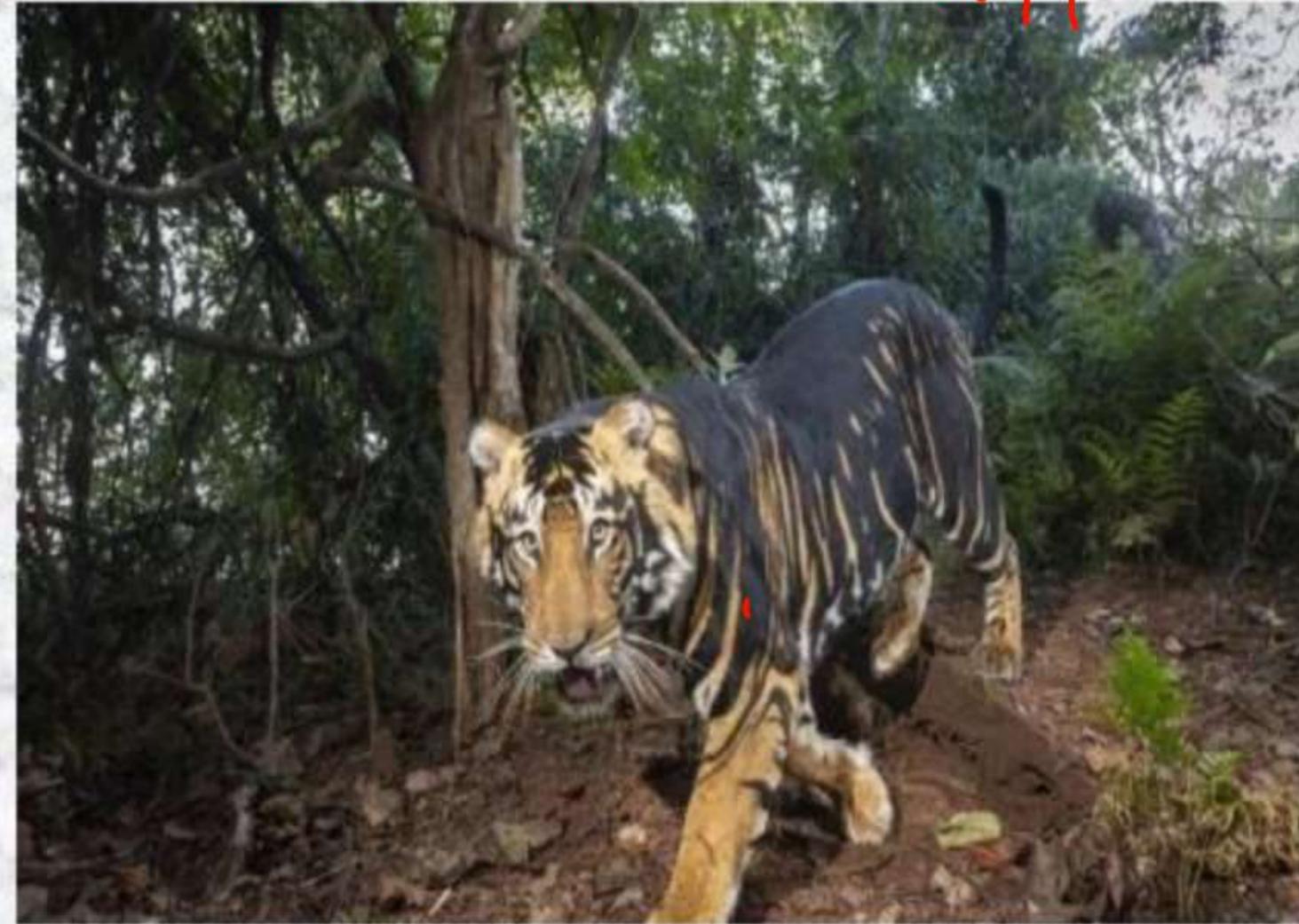


M-sand ✓

- Manufactured sand (M-Sand) is artificial sand produced from crushing hard stones into small sand sized angular shaped particles, washed and finely graded to be used as construction aggregate.
- It is a superior alternative to River Sand for construction purposes.
- Manufactured sand is produced from hard granite stone by crushing. The crushed sand is of cubical shape with grounded edges, washed and graded to as a construction material.
- The Rajasthan government brought the much-awaited policy on manufactured sand (M-sand), giving industry status to the units producing it for construction work and reducing the dependence on bajri (riverbed sand).
- The Supreme Court had banned illegal mining on riverbeds in 2017

Black Tiger

- The rare big cats with distinctive dark stripe patterns are Bengal tigers with a gene mutation and are only found in the region.
- Simlipal has the world's highest rate of black tiger sightings in the world.
- The reserve had last reported eight tigers, according to the Tiger Status Report 2018. (5/0)
- Big cats with dark coats, called pseudomelanistic or false coloured, were spotted in camera traps at the reserve
- Black tigers were first officially recorded in the forests of Similipal in 1975-76,
- The tigers in the Similipal Tiger Reserve are an isolated population in eastern India and gene flow between them and other tiger populations is very restricted



EIN, Sch I/IV CITES
→ APP I

Odisha

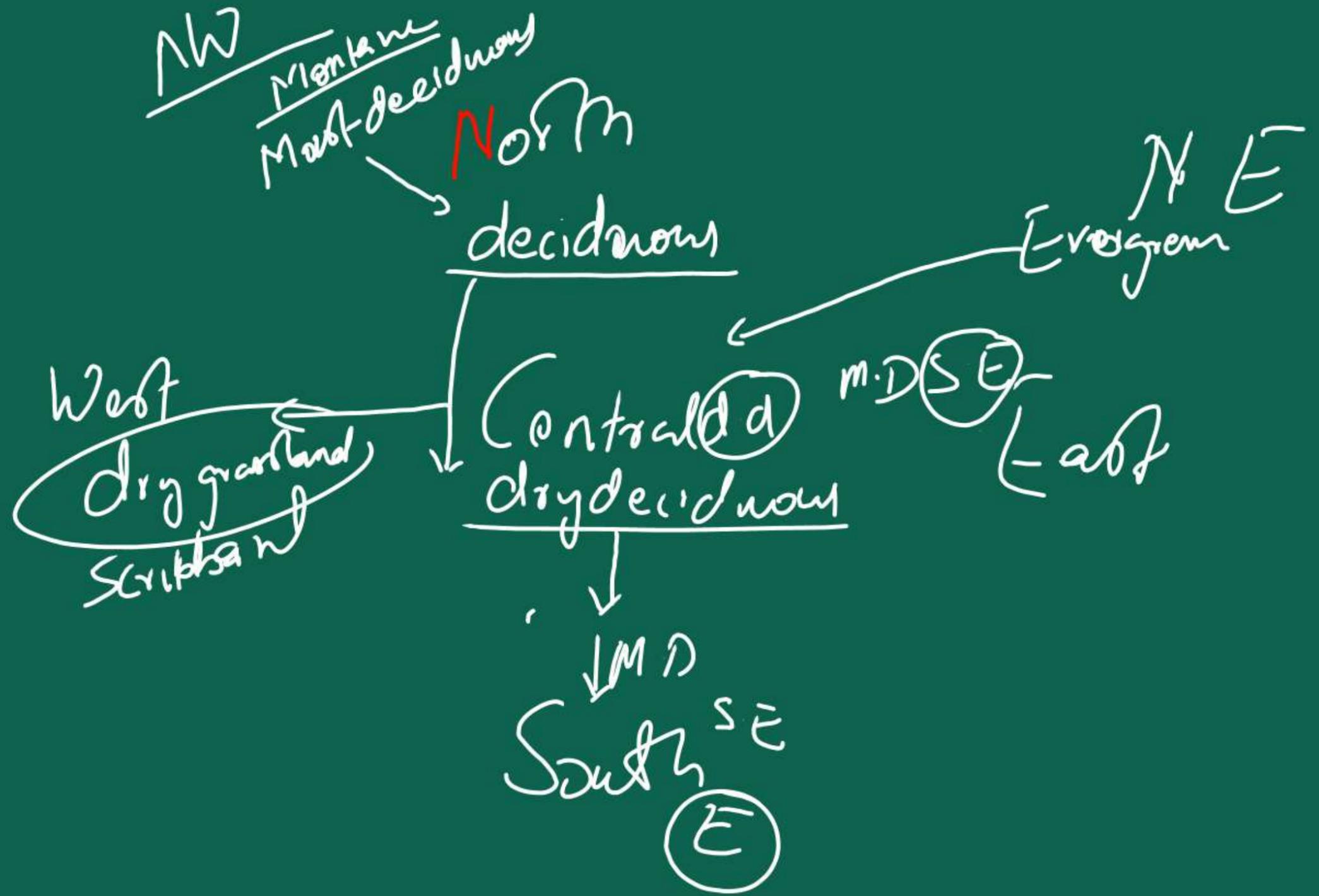
Tigers in India

- Population: Western Ghats > Central & Eastern Ghats > Northern Part > North East
- Generally found in- tropical and sub tropical forests, evergreen forests, mangrove swamps and grasslands.
- Also found in Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh etc
- Madhya Pradesh (526) > Karnataka (524) > Uttarakhand (442)
- Conservation Status: WPA- Schedule 1, IUCN- Endangered, CITES- Appendix 1
- Related things: mSTRIPES: It records the track a forest official walks and geotags the sightings of tigers and even other animals or signs which helps in the estimation,"
- Conservation Assured/Tiger Standards(CA/TS): a set of criteria which allows tiger sites to check if their management will lead to successful tiger conservation

Simlipal National Park

- Biosphere Reserve + Tiger Reserve + National Park, Also part of Elephant Reserve
- Abundance of semul (red silk cotton trees) that bloom here.
- Location: Eastern End of Eastern Ghats, Located in Mayurbhanj, Northern Odisha
- River: twelve rivers cut across the plain area, all of which drain into the Bay of Bengal. The prominent among them are Burhabalanga, Palpala Bandan, Salandi, Kahairi and Deo.
- Vegetation: tropical semi-evergreen forests, tropical moist deciduous forests, dry deciduous hill forests, high level sal forests and sprawling meadows.
- Fauna: Tiger, Elephant, Gaur, Chausingha, leopard, sambar, barking deer, gaur, jungle cat, wild boar, four-horned antelope, giant squirrel and common langur. Grey hornbill, Indian pied hornbill and Malabar pied hornbill are also found here
- Baheripani waterfall, Joranda waterfall,







KHAN GLOBAL STUDIES

Most Trusted Learning Platform

THANKS FOR WATCHING

