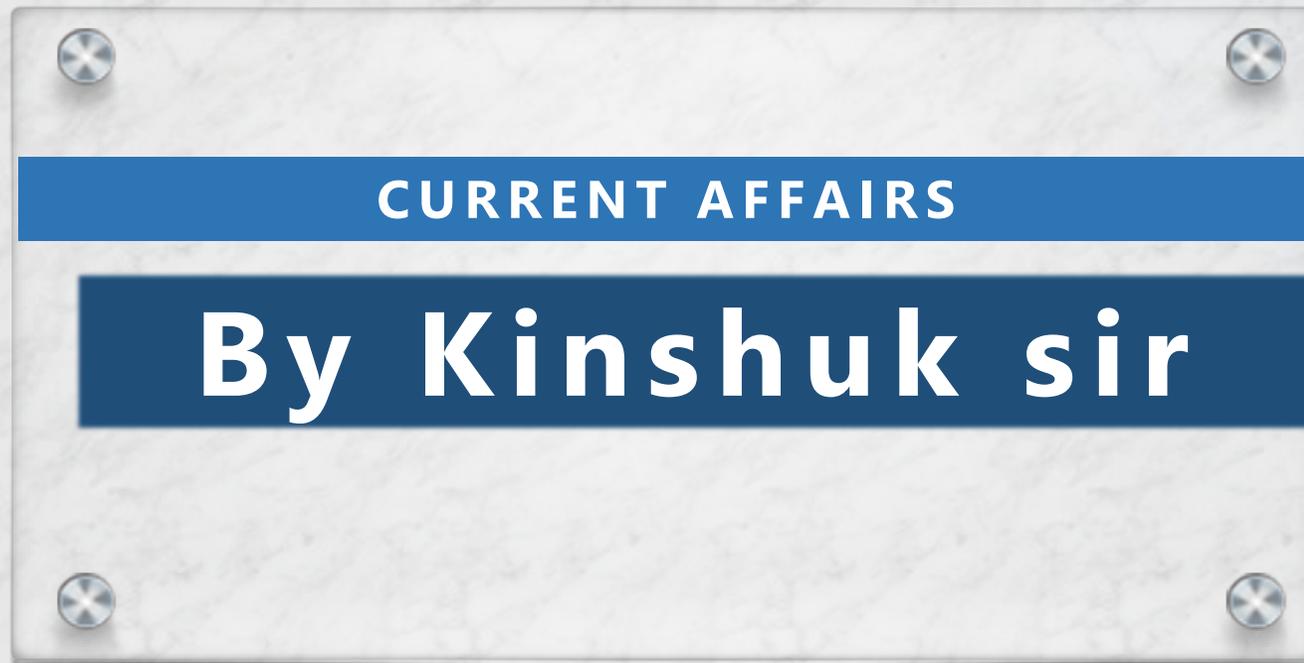




Most Trusted Learning Platform



Child Marriage - बाल विवाह

Four States, mainly Bihar (16.7%), West Bengal (15.2%), Uttar Pradesh (12.5%), and Maharashtra (8.2%) account for more than half of the total child marriages in girls.

What are the key findings?

- As per the report, one in five girls are still married below legal age in India.
- “The largest absolute increase in headcount was observed in West Bengal, representing an increase of 32.3% in headcount.
- The National Family Health Survey-5 carried out in 2019-20, points out that the women aged 20-24 years who were married before the age of 18 years in West Bengal remains one of the highest in the country at 41.6%.
- The all-India figure of women aged 20-24 years getting married before they turn 18 is pegged at 23.3%.

Child Marriage - बाल विवाह

- **What has been the impact?**
- While child marriage is considered a human rights violation and a recognised form of sexual and gender-based violence, the adverse impact of child marriage is manifested across maternal and child health in the State.
- **Are laws not being implemented?**
- In 2021, West Bengal registered 105 cases under PCMA 2006 whereas States with a smaller population and lesser instances of child marriage registered more cases, like Tamil Nadu, which registered 169 cases, Karnataka 273 and Assam 155 cases respectively.

Child Marriage - बाल विवाह

- **Implications**
- **Health Risks:** Child brides face increased health risks due to early pregnancies and childbirth.
- **Limited Education:** Marriage often disrupts a girl's education, limiting her future opportunities.
- **Poverty Perpetuation:** Child brides are more likely to live in poverty, perpetuating a cycle of economic hardship.
- **Gender Inequality:** Reinforces gender inequalities, as girls are often married off without their consent.
- **Psychological Impact:** Child brides may suffer from mental health issues due to early responsibilities and societal pressure.
- **Violence:** Increased vulnerability to domestic violence and abuse within early marriages.
- **Maternal Mortality:** Higher risk of maternal mortality due to young age and physical immaturity.

Child Marriage - बाल विवाह

- **What is the issue of West Bengal?**
- Experts point out that West Bengal has emerged as an example where cash incentives and existing laws have failed to check child marriages.
- **What approach is needed?**
- In 2022, the West Bengal government called for a district action plan to curb child marriage and issued necessary guidelines.
- There is a need to launch a social campaign which involves all stakeholders including panchayats, schools and local communities and with a political will to enforce the existing laws to improve the situation at the grass roots.

Consider the following statements with respect to the Prevention of Child Marriage Act 2006:

1. In the present times, the minimum age of marriage for both males and females has been fixed at 21 years.
2. The act applies to Child Marriages which have taken place after 31st December 2006.
3. It applies to Indian Citizens living in India as well as beyond India.

How many statements given above is/are correct?

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

India – Nepal Relations

India Nepal Sign Power Pact

- Nepal will export 10000 MW power to India in the next 10 years
- Glimpse of India-Nepal Relations
- India remains **Nepal's largest trade partner**, with bilateral trade crossing US\$ 7 billion in FY 2019-20. **India provides transit for almost the entire third country trade of Nepal.**
- **Indian firms are among the largest investors in Nepal**, accounting for more than 33% of the total FDI stock in Nepal, worth nearly US\$ 500 million

India – Nepal Relations

- **Glimpse of India-Nepal Relations**
- India has been assisting in the modernisation of Nepal Army (NA) by supplying equipment and providing training.
- The ‘Indo-Nepal Battalion-level Joint Military Exercise SURYA KIRAN’ is conducted alternately in India and in Nepal
- Indians account for about 30% of foreign tourists in Nepal.

India – Nepal Relations

- **Glimpse of India-Nepal Relations**
- Decline in Indian Investments: Chinese investments are replacing Indian investments. In 2019, for instance, China accounted for approximately 40% of new FDIs against 30% FDI from India.
- While 98% of the India-Nepal boundary was demarcated, two areas, Susta and Kalapani remained in limbo.
- In 2019, Nepal released a new political map claiming Kalapani, Limpiyadhura and Lipulekh of Uttarakhand and the area of Susta (West Champaran district, Bihar) as part of Nepal's territory.

India – Nepal Relations

- **Glimpse of India-Nepal Relations**
- China plans to invest in Nepal's infrastructure as part of its ambitious BRI (Belt and Road Initiative) to increase global trade.
- The trust gap between India and Nepal has grown over time due to India's notoriously slow pace of project implementation.
- Some Nepalese ethnic groups dislike India because they think that India meddles too much in Nepal's politics and interferes with their political sovereignty.

Which of the following states of India borders Nepal?

1. Uttarakhand
2. Himachal
3. Uttar Pradesh
4. West Bengal
5. Assam

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a. 1, 2 and 3 only
- b. 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
- c. 1, 3 and 4 only
- d. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Indian States sharing border with Nepal



Simultaneous Elections - समकालीन चुनाव

The Law Commission, which is looking into the issue of holding simultaneous elections in the country, may examine the possibility of carrying out the three-tier voting exercise in two phases in a single year.

In the first phase, Lok Sabha and Assembly elections can be held and in the second phase, local body polls can be organised

Simultaneous Elections - समकालीन चुनाव

The Activity so far:

In September, the Union Government notified the formation of a six-member panel to 'examine and make recommendations for holding simultaneous elections' in the Lok Sabha, State assemblies and local bodies.

For this purpose, the panel has been entrusted with the task of proposing specific amendments to the Constitution and any other legal changes necessary to enable simultaneous elections.

The panel also has to give its opinion on whether the proposed amendments shall require the assent of half of the State assemblies, as stipulated in Article 368.

Simultaneous Elections - समकालीन चुनाव

Simultaneous elections in the Indian History

The first four general elections involved simultaneous elections for the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies.

It was possible then as the Congress was in power both at the national and State levels.

The bifurcation of elections happened due to the advancing of Lok Sabha elections by the Congress, which after suffering a split in 1969 was looking to secure a majority of its own, riding on the populist appeal of Former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

As of now the Lok Sabha elections coincide with the Assembly elections in four States namely Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Arunachal Pradesh, and Sikkim.

Simultaneous Elections - समकालीन चुनाव

What has been said Now?

- The proposal to hold simultaneous elections has been pushed by the BJP since it came to power in 2014.
- After the NITI Aayog backed the proposal in 2017, it was mentioned next year in then President Ram Nath Kovind's address to the joint session of Parliament.
- He asked parties to have a 'sustained debate on the subject of holding simultaneous elections'.
- The Law Commission also released a draft report on August 30, 2018, examining the legal-constitutional aspects related to the proposal.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi reiterated the need to hold simultaneous elections in his Independence Day speech in 2019.
- Most recently, the proposal received support in the Law Commission Report, which is reportedly exploring the feasibility of a common electoral roll.

Simultaneous Elections - समकालीन चुनाव

Arguments in Favour:

- Holding separate elections incurs massive recurring expenditure for the State and the Central government. In case of simultaneous elections, there would only be one electoral roll for all elections and the government would need the services of security forces and civilian officials only once. This would save public money and human resources that can be put to other public causes.
- The dense electoral cycle involves prolonged deployment of security and police forces on election duty, thus posing a concern for national security and maintenance of law and order.
- The administration comes under strain due to the mass-scale transfers of officials within the State, either by the government looking for pliable officers in key positions or by the order of the ECI once code of conduct comes into force

Simultaneous Elections - समकालीन चुनाव

Arguments in Favour:

- Holding separate elections comes in the way of development as the enforcement of the code of conduct for a longer period leads to the stoppage of ongoing development work. No new projects can be started during this period and even on-going projects suffer from inertia.
- Simultaneous elections would lessen the role of money in elections as campaign finance of parties' would come down. The monitoring of election expenditure by the ECI will also become more effective due to a concerted effort at the national level.

Simultaneous Elections - समकालीन चुनाव

Arguments in Favour:

- The 'one nation-one election' plan would help in reducing the pernicious role of regionalism, casteism, and communalism in mobilising electorates. It would help in bringing issues of national importance on the electoral agenda.
- And finally, it is being argued that having too many elections creates a sense of fatigue among electorates. Voter turnout at the national level has stagnated in recent elections.

Simultaneous Elections - समकालीन चुनाव

Arguments in against:

- The Centre's initiative is being viewed as being antithetical to the federal spirit as there has not been wider consultation with constituent States,
- Holding simultaneous elections would most likely push local and regional issues to the periphery.
- As far as cost saving is concerned, holding simultaneous elections would require large-scale purchase of Electronic Voting Machines (EVM) and Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail Machines (VVPAT). Moreover, biennial elections to Legislative councils/Rajya Sabha and by-elections would still be held, costing money and resources.

Simultaneous Elections - समकालीन चुनाव

Arguments in against:

- Frequent elections rather than sagging the enthusiasm of voters keep them enthused, as evident in the comparatively higher percentage of voting in State and local elections.
- Frequency of elections at different layers also helps in increasing accountability as elected representatives and their parties remain on their toes.

The State Election Commission is responsible for the elections of how many of the following?

1. Legislative Assembly
2. Legislative Council
3. Panchayats
4. Municipality

Select the answer using the code given below:

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. Only three
- d. All four

PRITHVI – PRITHvi Vigyan

- Launched by Ministry of Earth Sciences
- long-term observations of the atmosphere, ocean, geosphere, cryosphere and solid earth to record the vital signs of the Earth System and change.
- understanding and predicting weather, ocean and climate hazards and understanding the science of climate change.
- Exploration of polar and high seas regions of the Earth towards discovery of new phenomena and resources.
- Development of technology for exploration and sustainable harnessing of oceanic resources for societal applications.
- Translation of knowledge and insights from Earth systems science into services for societal, environmental and economic benefit

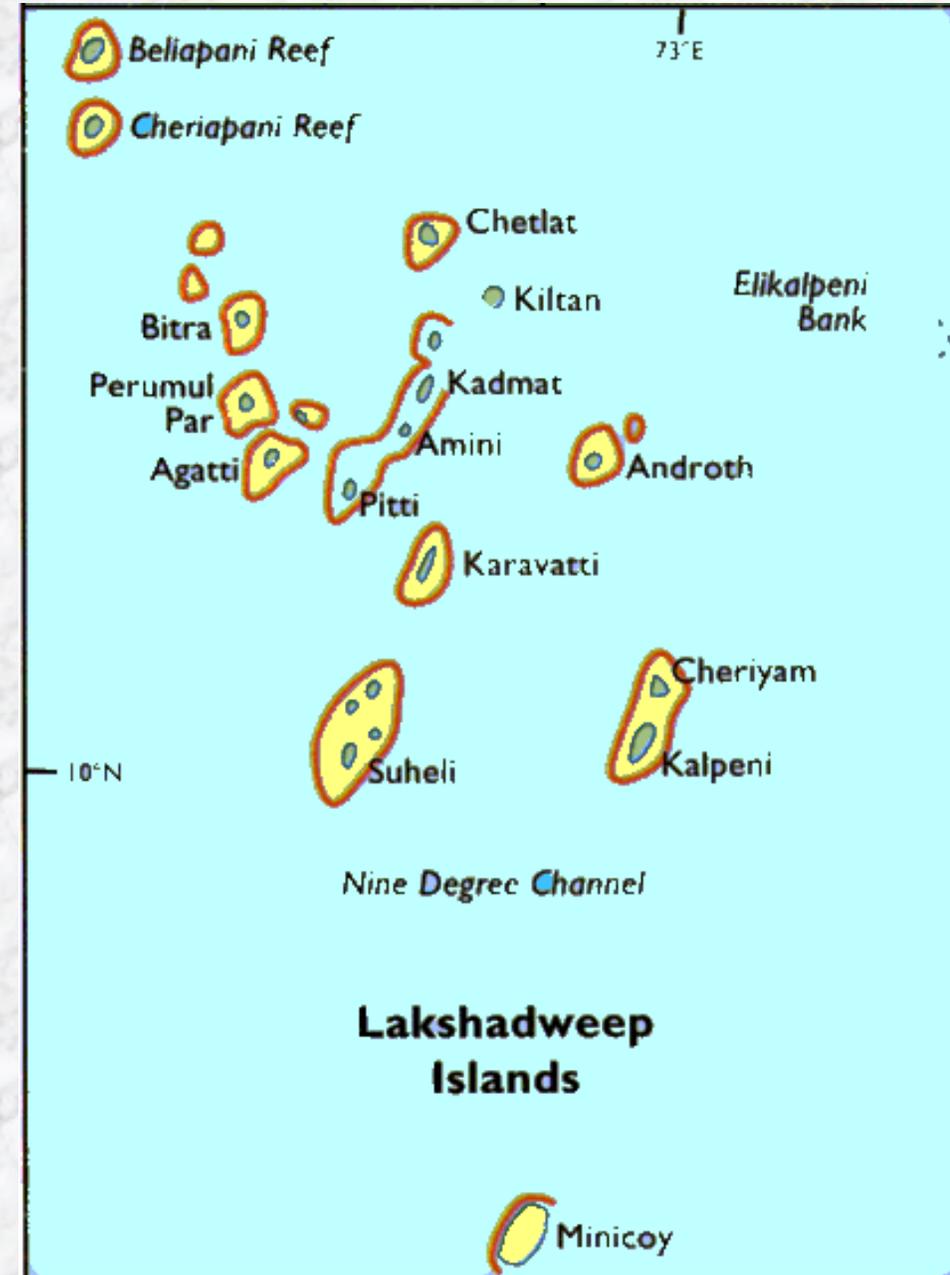
Lakshadweep Islands

Lakshadweep, the group of 36 islands is known for its exotic and sun-kissed beaches and lush green landscape.

The name Lakshadweep in Malayalam and Sanskrit means 'a hundred thousand islands'."

India's smallest Union Territory Lakshadweep is an archipelago consisting of 36 islands with an area of 32 sq km

The islands have a total area of 32 sq km. The capital is Kavaratti and it is also the principal town of the UT.





ISLANDS

Lakshdweep (Coral island)

9* Channel

Minicoy (Coral Islands)

8* Channel

Maldieives

Great Andman

North Andman

Middle Andman

South Andman

Little Andman

Nicobar

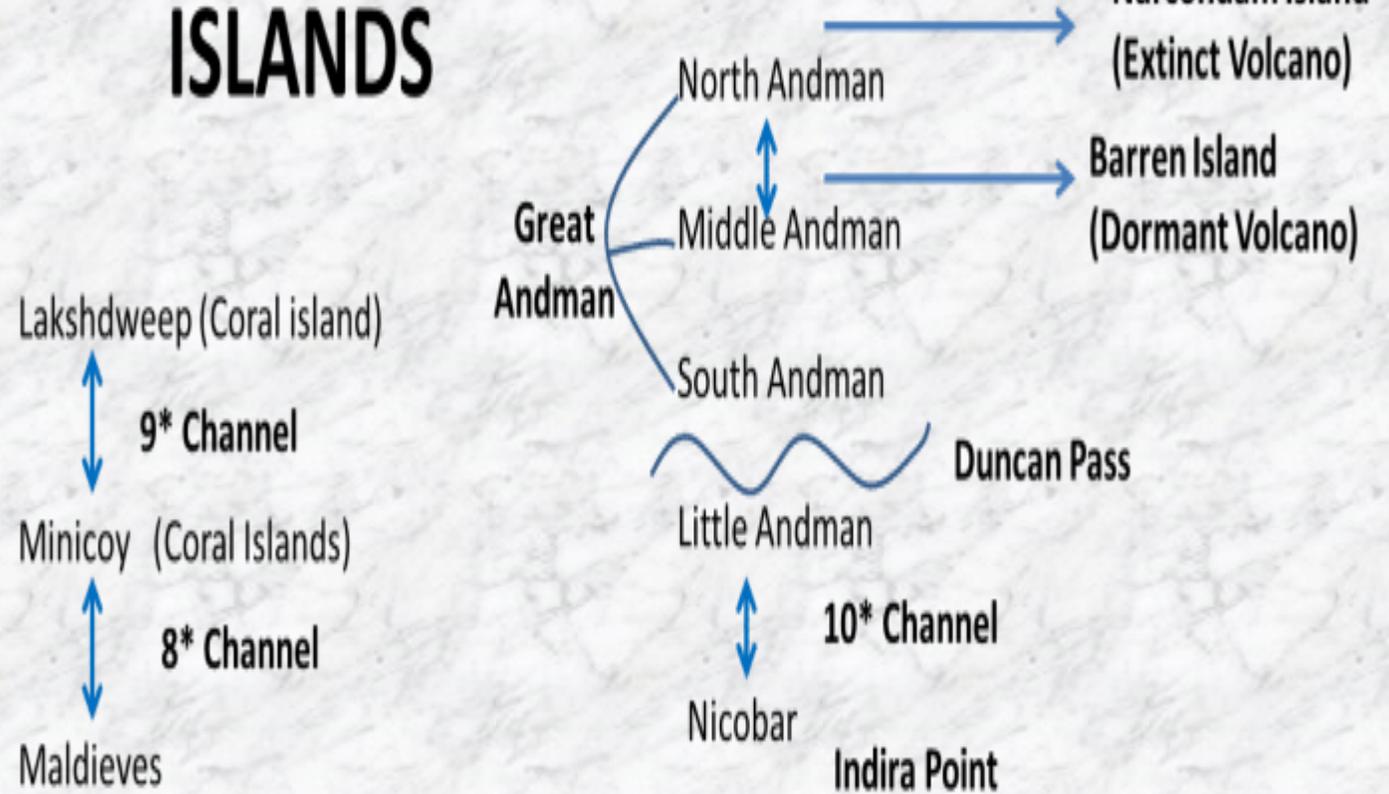
Narcondam Island
(Extinct Volcano)

Barren Island
(Dormant Volcano)

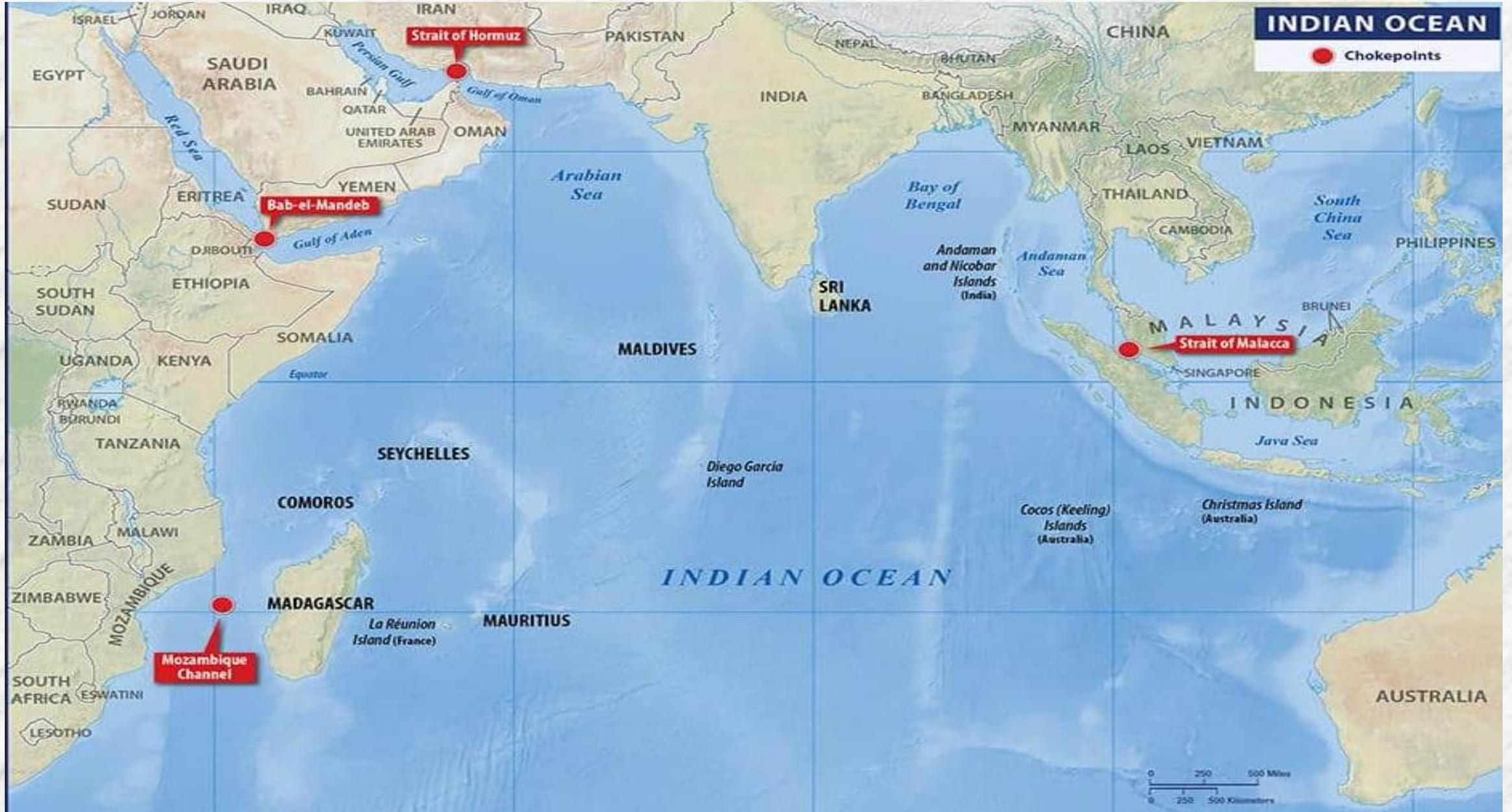
Duncan Pass

10* Channel

Indira Point



UPSC



Consider the following pairs:

1. Eight Degree channel – Lakshadweep and Minicoy
2. Nine Degree channel – Little Andaman and Nicobar
3. Ten Degree channel – Minicoy and Maldives

How many pairs are correctly matched?

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

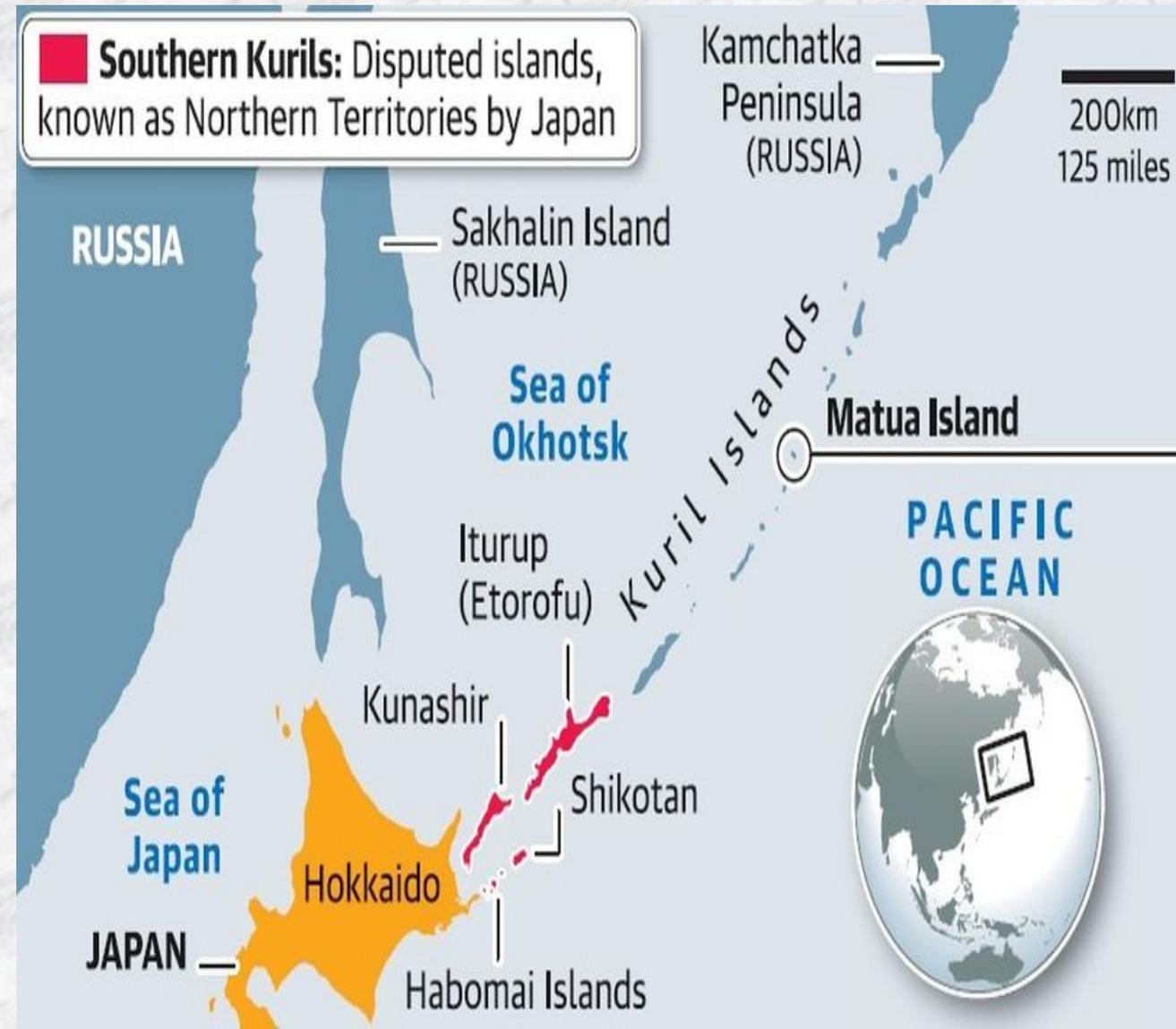
- Shipping via the Panama Canal has dropped by over 50 per cent due to drought conditions at the 51-mile stretch.
- Due to the shortage of water, ships moving from Asia to the US are being forced to use the Suez Canal, which takes six more days compared to the Panama Canal.
- Moreover, Panama is facing its driest rainy season in decades, raising fears of prolonged canal bottlenecks.

Panama Canal



- The Kuril Islands are a volcanic archipelago of more than 50 islands.
- They stretch for 750 miles (1,200 km) from the Kamchatka Peninsula to the northeastern corner of Hokkaido island.
- The islands separate the Sea of Okhotsk from the Pacific Ocean.
- The Kuril Islands have been a disputed territory between Russia and Japan since at least the mid-19th century. Japan refers to them as Northern territories, Russia calls them the Kuril Islands, and South Korea named them as Dokdo islands.

Kuril Islands



- Location – west-central coast of **Southern Africa**.
- Bordering Countries – **Namibia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Zambia**
- **Atlantic Ocean** lies on the west.
- Capital and largest city – **Luanda**



WORLD

OPEC Member Countries



QATAR & ANGOLA left OPEC

- The Namdapha flying squirrel has resurfaced in Arunachal Pradesh after going missing for 42 years.
- It is a rare nocturnal flying squirrel species found in the Namdapha Tiger Reserve in Arunachal Pradesh, India.
- **IUCN Red List:** Critically Endangered
- **Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act, 2022:** Schedule I

Namdapha Flying Squirrel

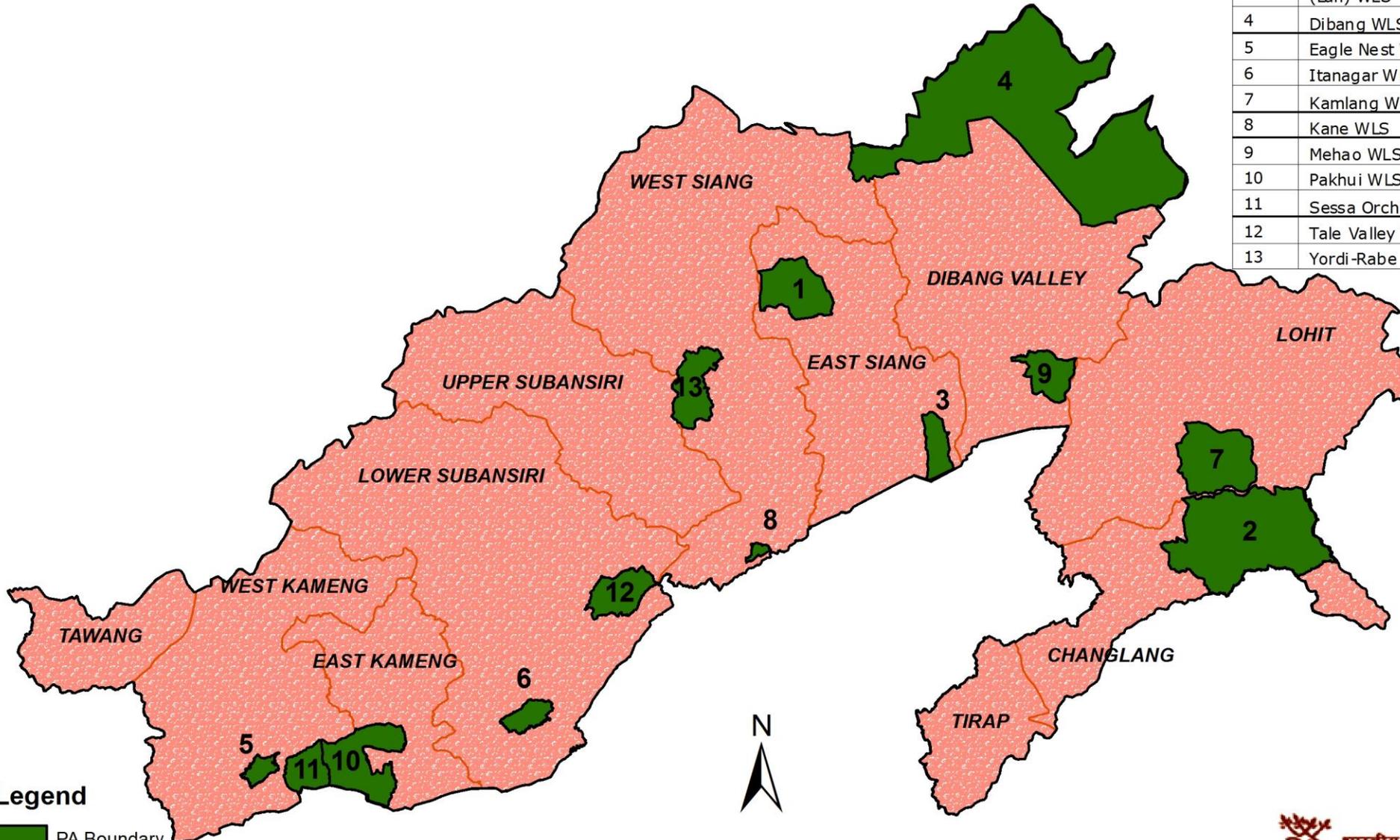


Which one of the following National Parks has a climate that varies from tropical to subtropical, temperate and arctic? (2015)

- (a) Khangchendzonga National Park
- (b) Nandadevi National Park
- (c) Neora Valley National Park
- (d) Namdapha National Park

Wildlife Protected Areas in Arunachal Pradesh

S.N.	PA Name	Area in Km ²
1	Mouling NP	483.00
2	Namdapha NP	1807.82
3	D'Ering Memorial (Lali) WLS	190.00
4	Dibang WLS	4,149.00
5	Eagle Nest WLS	217.00
6	Itanagar WLS	140.30
7	Kamlang WLS	783.00
8	Kane WLS	31.00
9	Mehao WLS	281.5
10	Pakhui WLS	861.95
11	Sessa Orchid WLS	100.00
12	Tale Valley WLS	337.00
13	Yordi-Rabe Supe	397.00





KHAN GLOBAL STUDIES

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THANKS FOR WATCHING

