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Daily News Analysis

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1. Pamed Wildlife Sanctuary

- **Prelims** - Pamed Wildlife Sanctuary
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Environment

Why in the news?

- The Environment Ministry's wildlife board panel has cleared the way to set up a jungle warfare college and battalion camping site by altering the boundaries of the Pamed Wildlife Sanctuary.

Pamed Wildlife Sanctuary

- **Location:** Bijapur district, Chhattisgarh (near the borders of Telangana and Odisha).
- **Part of:** The larger Dandakaranya forest region of Central India.
- **Established:** 1983.
- **Conservation:** One of the three sanctuaries in the Indravati Tiger Reserve landscape
- **Associated River:** Lies within the Godavari River basin
- **Landscape:** Undulating terrain, mixed forest canopy, with seasonal streams and gentle slopes.
- **Vegetation:** Southern Tropical Dry Deciduous Forests
- **Fauna:** Wild buffalo, Leopard, Sloth bear, Gaur, Chital, Sambar, Wild boar, Jackal, Hyena.

2. Chittaranjan Das

- **Prelims** - Chittaranjan Das
- **Mains** - GS 1 - Modern History

Why in the news?

- Lok Sabha paid floral tribute to freedom fighter Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das, on his birth anniversary (November 5).

Chittaranjan Das

- **Other Name:** Deshbandhu – “Friend of the Nation”
- **Early Life**
 - Born in 1870 in Bikrampur (now in Bangladesh).
 - Educated at University of Calcutta; later studied law in England.
 - Rose to prominence as a barrister in Calcutta, using his profession for national service.
- **Legal Role in National Movement**
 - Defended Aurobindo Ghosh in the Alipore Bomb Case (1908) — a landmark political trial; his defence made him a national figure.
 - Also acted as defence counsel in the Dacca Conspiracy Case (1910–11).
- **Roles Played in the Freedom Struggle**
 - **Non-Cooperation Movement (1919–1922):** Actively participated under Gandhi's leadership; promoted boycott of British institutions and goods.
 - **President, Indian National Congress (Gaya Session – 1922):** Advocated constructive swaraj and national self-reliance within the framework of Gandhian ideals.
 - **Organisation Formed:** Co-founded the Swaraj Party (1923) with Motilal Nehru and Vithalbhai Patel.
 - **Civic Leadership:** First elected Mayor of Calcutta (1924) – initiated urban reforms
- **Literary Work:**
 - **Newspaper:** Founded Forward (later renamed Liberty) — Subhas Chandra Bose served as its editor.
 - **Books and Essays:** India for Indians and Freedom Through Disobedience — reflecting his vision of self-rule through moral courage and discipline.
- **Death:** July 16, 1925

3. Exercise Malabar - 2025

- Prelims - Exercise Malabar - 2025
- Mains - GS 2 - International Relations

Why in the news?

- Exercise Malabar - 2025 begins at Guam North Pacific, USA.

Exercise Malabar - 2025

- **What is it?**: Exercise Malabar 2025 is a high-profile multilateral naval exercise involving India, the United States, Japan, and Australia (the Quad countries).
- **Focus**: Focuses on strengthening maritime cooperation, improving interoperability, and showcasing collective commitment to regional security among the Quad navies
- **Indian Representation**: INS Sahyadri, an indigenously designed and built Guided Missile Stealth Frigate, is representing India during the exercise.
- **Phases**
 - **Harbour Phase**: Involves operational planning, discussions, alignment of communication protocols, familiarization visits, and social/sporting engagements to foster camaraderie among naval personnel.
 - **Sea Phase**: Encompasses advanced maneuvers such as anti-submarine warfare drills, joint fleet movements, gunnery exercises, surface combat, aerial operations, and special operations targeting interoperability in real combat scenarios.



4. Gaganyaan Mission

- **Prelims** - Gaganyaan Mission
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Science and Technology

Why in the news?

- ISRO conducts safety tests on the main parachutes for the Gaganyaan crew.

Gaganyaan Mission

- **Launched by:** Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in 2018.
- **Objective:** The Gaganyaan project plans to launch a crew of three people into orbit at a 400-kilometer altitude for a three-day mission before returning them safely to land in Indian sea waters.
- **Mission Components**

→ **Launch Vehicle:**

- ★ HLVM3 (Human-rated LVM3) – modified version of the LVM3 rocket (formerly GSLV Mk III).
- ★ Equipped with Crew Escape System (CES) for emergency evacuation.

→ **Crew Module (CM):** Pressurised capsule to house three astronauts, fitted with life support, avionics, and parachute-based recovery system.

→ **Service Module (SM):** Unpressurised section containing propulsion and power systems.

→ **Orbital Module:** Combination of CM + SM; total weight ~8 tonnes.

- **Collaboration**

→ Training of astronauts: Conducted in collaboration with Glavkosmos (Russia) at the Yuri Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Centre.

→ Partnership with DRDO for space-grade life support and food systems.

- **Significance:** Gaganyaan will be India's first manned mission to space (The US, Russia, and China have conducted manned missions to space)

5. New Labour Codes

- **Prelims** - New Labour Codes
- **Mains** - GS 2 - Polity

Why in the news?

- Issues such as the draft Labor Policy and the implementation of four Labour Codes became key topics of discussion at the National Conference of Labour & Employment and Industry Ministers and Secretaries of States and the Union Territories.

Code on Wages, 2019

- **Objective:** Covers minimum wages, payment of wages, equal remuneration, and bonuses.
- **Key provisions:**
 - Universal minimum wage applicability (irrespective of employment type).
 - Timely wage disbursement with no discrimination based on gender.
 - Removes regional disparities in wage structures.

Industrial Relations Code, 2020

- **Objective:** Simplifies laws related to industrial disputes, trade unions, and employment termination.
- **Key provisions:**
 - Companies with up to 300 workers can hire or fire without government approval (previously 100).
 - Provides a two-month notice period before strikes.
 - Introduces worker re-skilling funds for retrenched employees.

Code on Social Security, 2020

- **Objective:** Extends social security benefits to all workers, including gig and platform workers.
- **Key provisions:**
 - Creation of a social security fund for unorganized and gig workers.
 - Universal coverage under the Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) and Employees' State Insurance (ESI).
 - Maternity and disability benefits expanded to informal sectors.

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Occupational Safety, Health, and Working Conditions (OSH) Code, 2020

- **Objective:** Focuses on workplace safety, health, and welfare.
- **Key provisions:**
 - Mandates a workweek of 48 hours with flexibility (e.g., four-day workweek).
 - Provides women the right to work night shifts with safety provisions.
 - Expands coverage to include contract and interstate migrant workers.

6. Exercise MITRA SHAKTI-2025

- **Prelims** - Exercise MITRA SHAKTI-2025
- **Mains** - GS 2 - International Relations

Why in the news?

- The “Exercise MITRA SHAKTI-2025” begins at the Foreign Training Node, Belagavi, Karnataka.

Exercise MITRA SHAKTI-2025

- **What is it?**: Bilateral joint military exercise between India and Sri Lanka.
- **Objective**:
 - To jointly rehearse sub-conventional operations under Chapter VII of the UN Charter (Peace Support Operations).
 - Enhance interoperability between the two armies in counter-terrorism and peacekeeping operations.
 - Develop joint operational skills for Sub-Conventional Operations (SCOs).
 - Strengthen military cooperation and foster mutual understanding.
- **Participants**
 - **India**: Troops from the RAJPUT Regiment and personnel from the Indian Air Force.
 - **Sri Lanka**: Sri Lanka Army troops.
- **Significance**
 - Reinforces India’s Neighbourhood First and Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR) doctrines.
 - Enhances defence cooperation and mutual trust between India and Sri Lanka.
 - Builds readiness for UN Peacekeeping Missions and humanitarian assistance operations.
 - Promotes regional stability through combined counter-terrorism capability building.

7. Ethiopia

- **Prelims** - Location of Ethiopia
- **Mains** - GS 2 - International Relations

Ethiopia

Why in the news?

- Ethiopia is set to be confirmed as host of the COP32 climate summit in 2027.

Ethiopia

- **Location:** It is a landlocked country in the Horn of Africa.
- **Capital:** Addis Ababa
- **Borders:** Eritrea, Djibouti, Somalia, Kenya, South Sudan and Sudan.
- **Geographical Feature:**
 - One of the country through which African Rift Valley passes.
 - Hottest place in Africa - Dallol, Ethiopia.
- **Associated International Groupings:** Group of 24, the Non-Aligned Movement, the Group of 77, and the Organisation of African Unity.
- **Headquarters Locating in Ethiopia:** Addis Ababa is the headquarters of the African Union, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

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8. Rift Valley Fever

- **Prelims** - Rift Valley Fever
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Science and Technology

Why in the news?

- The World Health Organization (WHO) confirmed an outbreak of Rift Valley Fever (RVF) affecting Mauritania and Senegal in Western Africa.

Rift Valley Fever

- **What is it?**: Rift Valley Fever is a zoonotic viral disease primarily affecting domestic livestock (sheep, goats, cattle, camels) and occasionally humans.
- **Cause**: Rift Valley Fever virus (RVFV)
- **Transmission**
 - **Animal-to-animal**: Spread mainly by mosquito bites (Aedes, Culex species).
 - **Animal-to-human**:
 - ★ Direct contact with infected animal blood, tissues, or fluids (during slaughtering, veterinary procedures).
 - ★ Bites from infected mosquitoes.
- **Symptoms**
 - **Animals**: High mortality in young livestock and abortions in pregnant animals (up to 100%).
 - **Humans**:
 - ★ Mild Form: Fever, muscle pain, weakness, headache.
 - ★ Severe Forms: Ocular disease (retinitis → vision loss), Meningoencephalitis (neurological symptoms) and Hemorrhagic fever (bleeding disorders, liver damage).
- **Diagnosis**
 - **Laboratory Tests**: RT-PCR, ELISA, virus isolation from blood or tissues.

9. Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP)

- **Prelims** - Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP)
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Environment

Why in the news?

- The Delhi government has implemented Stage III of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP-III) as the city's Air Quality Index (AQI) breached 400, entering the 'severe' category for the first time this season.

Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP)

- **What is it?:** The Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) is a pre-emptive and emergency framework designed to control and reduce air pollution levels in the Delhi-NCR region by introducing graded sets of measures that are triggered automatically based on Air Quality Index (AQI) levels.
- **Objectives:**
 - To prevent further deterioration of air quality once it crosses threshold levels.
 - To ensure coordinated and time-bound action among agencies.
 - To make pollution control measures predictable, science-based, and incremental.
- **Institutional Framework:**
 - **Legal Basis:** Directed by Supreme Court under *M.C. Mehta* case (2016).
 - **Notification:** By Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC) in 2017.
 - **Implementing Authority:** CAQM (replacing EPCA in 2020 under Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas Act, 2021).
 - **Technical Support:** Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) and India Meteorological Department (IMD) provide AQI and meteorological forecasts.
- **Implementation Mechanism:**
 - **Supervisory Body:** CAQM (under MoEFCC).
 - **Executing Agencies:** State Pollution Control Boards, CPCB, municipal corporations, transport & traffic departments.

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- **Sub-Committee on GRAP:** Meets frequently to monitor real-time data and issue orders as per AQI forecasts.
- Orders of CAQM override state-level directions when there is a conflict.
- **Significance:**
 - Provides a scientific, graded framework for pollution control.
 - Enhances accountability among multiple agencies.
 - Enables pre-emptive action during winter months when pollution peaks.
 - Promotes inter-state coordination in NCR, covering Delhi, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan.
- **Challenges:**
 - Implementation gaps and weak enforcement at the ground level.
 - Lack of permanent measures addressing root causes (vehicular emissions, stubble burning, industrial waste management).
 - Coordination issues among multiple state agencies.
- **GRAP Updations:**
 - Revised GRAP (2023 onwards) now includes forecast-based early implementation- Measures can be triggered three days in advance if deterioration is anticipated.
 - Includes focus on green fuels, waste management, and real-time AQI public disclosure.