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PLACES IN NEWS

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Venezuela



WHY IN THE NEWS?

Venezuela has expressed keen interest in enhancing cooperation with India in critical minerals sectors and attract investments, the commerce ministry said.

- **Location** : It is a South American country.
- **Capital** : Caracas
- **Bordering Countries** : Guyana, Brazil, and Colombia.
- **Bordering Waterbodies** : Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean.
- **Rivers** : Orinoco River
- **Grasslands** : Llanos
- **Waterfall** : Angel Falls, the world's highest waterfall.



Siliguri Corridor



WHY IN THE NEWS?

Indian Army sets up three new garrisons near the strategic Siliguri Corridor.

- **Other Name:** Chicken's Neck Corridor
- **Location:** West Bengal, India.
- **Width:** The corridor is about 20-22 km wide at its narrowest point.
- **Bordering Countries:** Nepal, Bangladesh and Bhutan.
- **Strategic Significance :**
 - It is India's lifeline to the Northeast if any disruption here could cut off access to the entire region.
 - Close proximity to the India-China-Bhutan trijunction at Doklam- the site of the 2017 India-China standoff.
 - Vital for defense logistics and internal security.
 - It's a potential choke point in the event of conflict.



Senkaku Islands



WHY IN THE NEWS?

A Chinese Coast Guard ship formation passed through the waters of the Senkaku Islands triggered tension between both two countries.

- **Location**
 - In the East China Sea
 - It is located north of the Yaeyama Islands in Japan's Okinawa Prefecture and northeast of the island of Taiwan.
- **Other Names** : They are also known as the Diaoyu Islands in mainland China, the Diaoyutai Islands in Taiwan, and the Pinnacle Islands by other observers.
- **Major Islands in the Group** : The islands comprise Uotsuri Island, Kuba Island, Taisho Island (also called Kumeakashima Island), Kitakojima Island, Minamikojima Island, Tobise Island, Okinokitaiwa Island, and Okinominamiiwa Island.
- **Largest Island** : Uotsuri Island.

