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**EN-BUZZER**

**Daily News  
Analysis**

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## 1. Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS)

- **Prelims** - Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS)
- **Mains** - GS 2 - Social Justice

### Why in the news?

- The government informed on that PM VIKAS scheme aims to strengthen the socio-economic empowerment of the six notified minority communities

### Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS)

- **What is it?:** Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS) is a **flagship scheme** of the *Ministry of Minority Affairs*.
- **Aim:** **Holistic upliftment** of the **six notified minority communities**- Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis.
- **Scheme Convergence:** PM VIKAS merges **five earlier schemes** into a single integrated platform
  - **Seekho Aur Kamao:** Skill development for minorities
  - **Nai Manzil:** Education & skill training for dropout youth
  - **Nai Roshni:** Leadership development of minority women
  - **Hamari Dharohar:** Preservation of minority heritage
  - **USTTAD** (Upgrading the Skills and Training in Traditional Arts/ Crafts for Development): Support to traditional artisans and crafts
- **Focus Areas:**
  - **Skill development:** Training programmes for minority youth and artisans, focusing on traditional crafts and modern employable skills.
  - **Entrepreneurship promotion:** Credit linkages to be facilitated through NMDFC (National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation).
  - **Leadership development of minority women:** Builds on *Nai Roshni* model Capacity-building, Awareness of rights and Social and financial empowerment.
  - **Educational support for school dropouts:** For school dropouts, continuing the objective of *Nai Manzil*, through bridge courses for mainstreaming into formal education.

## 2. National Green Tribunal

- **Prelims** - National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC)
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Environment

## National Green Tribunal



### Why in the news?

- The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has taken suo motu cognisance and initiated a formal inquiry into the reported air and water pollution attributed to Fresh Cut Organic Products Private Limited in Kerala.

### National Green Tribunal (NGT)

- Established under the National Green Tribunal Act 2010.
- New Delhi is the Principal Place of Sitting of the Tribunal and Bhopal, Pune, Kolkata and Chennai shall be the other four places of sitting of the Tribunal.
- **Mandate** - To make disposal of applications or appeals finally within 6 months of the filing of the same.
- **Composition of NGT**
  - Chairperson, the Judicial Members, and Expert Members.
  - They shall hold office for a term of 5 years and are not eligible for reappointment.
- **Powers and Jurisdiction**
  - Established for effective and expeditious disposal of cases relating to environmental protection and conservation of forests and other natural resources.
  - It has appellate jurisdiction to hear appeals as a Court.
  - The Tribunal is not bound by the procedure laid down under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, but shall be guided by principles of natural justice.



- The NGT deals with civil cases under the seven laws related to the environment, these include:

- The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974,
- The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977,
- The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980,
- The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981,
- The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986,
- The Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 and
- The Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

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### 3. Leprosy

- **Prelims** - Leprosy
- **Mains** - GS 2 - Social Justice and Health

## Leprosy



#### Why in news?

- India continues to account for about 57% of global leprosy cases, with factors such as genetic vulnerability and poor living conditions increasing susceptibility to the disease.

#### Leprosy

- **Other Name:** Leprosy is also known as Hansen's Disease.
- **Fact:** Leprosy is one of the oldest diseases in recorded history.
- **Cause:** Bacteria called *Mycobacterium Leprae*
- **Areas of Infection:** Skin, Peripheral nerves, Upper respiratory tract and Lining of the nose.
- **Mode of Transmission:** Mainly by breathing airborne droplets from the affected individuals.
- **Symptoms:** Red patches on the skin, skin lesion, numbness in arms, hands, and legs, ulcers on the soles of feet, muscle Weakness and excessive weight loss.



- **Effect:** Disfigurement, permanent nerve damage in arms and legs and even loss of sensation in the body.
- **Treatment:** Leprosy is curable with the combination of drugs known as Multi-Drug Therapy (MDT).

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## 4. National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC)

- **Prelims** - National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC)
- **Mains** - GS 2 - Polity

### Why in the news?

- The NCBC has proposed removing 35 communities from the Central OBC list in West Bengal.

### National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC)

- **Formation**
  - Established in 1993 under the **National Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1993**.
  - Received constitutional status through the **102nd Amendment Act of 2018 (Article 338B)**.
- **Functions:**
  - Investigating and monitoring the implementation of constitutional safeguards for backward classes.
  - Advising the central and state governments on issues related to the welfare and development of backward classes.
  - Recommending measures for the advancement of socially and educationally backward classes.
- **Composition:**
  - The NCBC consists of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and three other members, all of whom are appointed by the President of India.
  - The members of the NCBC are chosen from among persons who have special knowledge or practical experience in matters relating to backward classes.
- **Powers:**
  - The NCBC has the power to summon and examine witnesses, receive evidence, and require the production of documents.
  - It can also visit any part of the country for the purpose of discharging its functions effectively.

- **Reports and Recommendations:**

- The NCBC submits annual and special reports to the President of India on the measures taken by the central and state governments for the welfare of backward classes.
- It also makes recommendations for the inclusion or exclusion of communities in the list of socially and educationally backward classes.

## 5. Lebanon

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

### Lebanon



**Why in the news?**

- Lebanon and Israel have both named civilian representatives to a committee that was previously composed only of military officials to oversee implementation of the U.S.-brokered ceasefire..

**Lebanon**

- Location:** Lebanon is a country in West Asia.
- Capital:** Beirut.
- Border Countries:** Syria, Israel.
- Bordering Waterbodies:** Mediterranean Sea.
- Climate:** Mediterranean climate.

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## 6. Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act

- **Prelims** - Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Economy

### Why in the news?

- In recent years, amendments to the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act have been introduced to strengthen domestic mining by enabling exploration licences, national-level auctions, inclusion of mining-associated minerals, and the creation of a national mineral exchange.

### Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act

- **What is it?:** It is the primary legislation governing **mining and mineral development** in India, that regulates **prospecting, mining leases, mineral concessions, and development of mineral resources**.
- **Objectives:**
  - Ensure **systematic and scientific exploitation** of mineral resources.
  - Balance **mineral development with environmental protection**.
  - Promote **transparency, competition, and sustainable mining**.
  - Provide a **legal framework** for granting mineral concessions.
- **Important Provisions:**
  - Classifies Minerals as **Major, Minor, and Atomic Minerals**.
  - **Auction-based Allocation:** Mandatory auction route for granting mining leases and composite licences, ensuring transparency, fair competition and higher revenue for states.
  - **District Mineral Foundation (DMF)** to work for the interest and benefit of persons affected by mining-related operations.
  - **National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET)** to promote regional and detailed mineral exploration.
- **Classification of Minerals:**
  - **Major Minerals:**
    - ★ **Regulation of Mines:** Authority of Parliament
    - ★ **Approving Mining Leases:** Central Government
    - ★ **Prevention of Illegal mining, transportation, and storage:** State

>> Kozhikode      >> Ernakulam      >> Thiruvananthapuram

Government.

★ **Collection of Royalties** on major minerals: State Government

→ **Minor Minerals:**

- ★ Regulation of minor minerals: State Government
- ★ Development and extraction: State Government
- ★ Fixing Royalty Rates: State Government
- ★ Environmental Clearances: State Government



## 7. Himalayan Black Bear

- **Prelims** - Himalayan Black Bear
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Environment

### Why in the news?

- For almost a week, wild black bears have been making unexpected appearances across Srinagar, moving through university campuses and disappearing before wildlife officials can capture them.

### Himalayan Black Bear

- **About:**
  - The Himalayan Black Bear is a subspecies of the Asian Black Bear (*Ursus thibetanus*).
  - Also known as the Asiatic Black Bear or Moon Bear due to the distinctive crescent-shaped mark on its chest.
  - A large, forest-dwelling carnivore–omnivore of the Himalayan region.
- **Distribution:**
  - **Globally:** India, Nepal, Bhutan, Pakistan, and China
  - **In India:** Occurs throughout the Himalayan range from Jammu & Kashmir to Arunachal Pradesh and also found in hilly regions of the northeastern states.
- **Features:**
  - Habitat: Dense, heavily forested areas
  - Diet: Omnivorous species
  - Behaviour: Naturally **diurnal**, but many individuals have become **nocturnal** to avoid human encounters.
- **Conservation Status:**
  - **IUCN Red List:** Vulnerable