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1. Great Nicobar Project

- Aims to build an International Container Transshipment Terminal (ICTT), a greenfield international airport, a township, and a gas–solar power plant
- GNI Project was conceived by NITI Aayog and launched in 2021
- Implemented by Andaman and Nicobar Islands Integrated Development Corporation (ANIIDCO).

2. Heat Wave

- **What is it?**: Heat Wave is a period of abnormally high temperatures that occurs during the summer season in India
- **Fact: Not included** in the notified disasters covered by the Disaster Management (DM) Act of 2005
- **Criteria for Defining Heatwaves**

→ **Physiography of the Region**

- ★ In Plains at least 40°C or more.
- ★ In Hilly Regions at least 30°C or more.
- ★ In Coastal Areas, 37°C or more

→ **Based on the Departure from Normal Maximum Temperature**

- ★ When normal maximum temperature of a station is **less than or equal to 40°C**:

❖ **Heat Wave**: Departure from normal is 5°C to 6°C

❖ **Severe Heat Wave**: Departure from normal is above 7°C.

- ★ When the normal maximum temperature of a station is **more than 40°C**:

❖ **Heat Wave**: Departure from normal is 4°C to 5°C

❖ **Severe Heat Wave**: Departure from normal is 6°C or more

→ **Based on Actual Maximum Temperature**

- ★ When actual maximum temperature is above 45°C (Severe Heat Wave at above 47°C)

• **Causes of Heatwaves**

- Prevalence of Hot and Dry Air
- Absence of Moisture
- Cloudless Skies
- Large Anticyclonic Flow
- Climate Change

3. Eco-Sensitive Zone and Kumbalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary

- **Eco Sensitive Zone**

- As per the National Wildlife Action Plan (2002-2016), issued by MoEFCC, **land within 10 km of the boundaries of national parks and wildlife sanctuaries is to be notified as eco-fragile zones or Eco-Sensitive Zones (ESZ)**
- **Prohibited Activities** – Commercial mining, saw mills, commercial use of wood, etc., apart from regulated activities like felling of trees
- **Permitted Activities** – Ongoing agricultural or horticultural practices, rainwater harvesting, and organic farming, among others

- **Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary**

- Located in the Aravalli mountain range – Rajasthan.