

## 1 Exoplanets

- Aspirants need to understand the **difference between** planets and exoplanets.
- Planets are large bodies like earth that revolve around a star like sun, while exoplanets are celestial bodies **outside** our solar system orbiting any star.
- Proxima Centauri b is an exoplanet.
- Planets and exoplanets are **defined by** the International Astronomical Union (IAU).



## 2 Ecosensitive zone

- Aspirants are required to understand what is meant by Eco sensitive zone and what is prohibited there.
- They are buffer zones around National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries to act as shock absorbers, regulating human activities and minimizing developmental impact
- They act as a transition zone from areas of high protection to areas involving lesser protection.
- It is notified under **Environment Protection Act 1986** by Ministry of Environment.
  - **Certain activities like mining are prohibited but certain activities like felling of tree or resorts are regulated.**





### 3 Northern Sea Route

- The Northern Sea Route is in the Arctic Ocean that connects the Pacific and Atlantic oceans through the Arctic.
- Global warming and melting of ice in arctic has brought this route to prominence.
- Passes through seas like the **Kara Sea, Laptev Sea, and East Siberian Sea.**

