



मराठी

18 April 2024

National and International News

Green Credit Programme (GCP)

Why in news?

- The **Green Credit Programme (GCP)** encourages organisations and individuals to invest in afforestation projects in 'degraded' forest lands for 'green credits'.
- The **Union Environment Ministry**, the coordinator of the programme, emphasizes restoring ecosystems over merely tree planting.

Key points:

- **Individuals and companies can apply** to the **Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE)** to pay to "restore" 'degraded' forest lands.
- **Two years after planting and following an evaluation** by the ICFRE, each planted tree could be worth one 'green credit.'
- **These credits can be used to**
 - Comply with existing forest laws or for reporting under environmental, social and governance leadership norms or to meet **corporate social responsibility requirements**.
- As of now, **these credits are not tradeable**. However, the **GCP aims to incentivise environmental positive actions through a market-based mechanism** and generate green credit, which **shall be tradable and made available for trading on a domestic market platform**.
- The Environment Ministry has issued guidelines that **States must rely on to calculate what it would cost to restore a degraded forest landscape**.
- The **Ministry has changed the earlier requirement of a minimum of 1,100 trees per hectare to qualify as reforested landscape** and left it to States to specify them.
- **Preference** would be given to **indigenous species** and naturally growing seedlings would be retained.
- **Public sector companies** such as Indian Oil, Power Grid Corporation, National Thermal Power Corporation, Oil India, Coal India, and National Hydropower Corporation **had registered to invest in the programme**.

Think:

- Know about Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE).
- Know about **Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS)**.



मराठी

**Malcom Adiseshiah
Award 2024 and Elizabeth
Adiseshiah Citation-2024**

Why in news?

- **Surinder S. Jodhka**, professor, School of Social Sciences, **Jawaharlal Nehru University**, has been chosen for the **Malcom Adiseshiah Award 2024**.
- **Vikas Kumar**, associate professor, School of Development, **Azim Premji University**, will receive the **Elizabeth Adiseshiah Citation-2024**.
- Every year, the awards are given to outstanding **social scientists**.

Key Points:

- It is awarded by the **Malcolm and Elizabeth Adiseshiah Trust**.
- **Malcom Adiseshiah award** carries a **citation** and a **cash prize of Rs.2 lakhs**.
- **Elizabeth Adiseshiah Award** will carry a **cash prize of Rs.1 lakh**.
- The **award is open to Indian and foreign scholars** ordinarily resident in India.

Did you know:

- **Malcolm Sathiyathan Adiseshiah** (18 April 1910 – 21 November 1994) was an **Indian development economist and educator**.

Malcolm Sathiyathan Adiseshiah

About Malcolm Sathiyathan Adiseshiah:

- He was born in **Vellore, Tamil Nadu**.
- He obtained a **doctorate in economics** at the London School of Economics.
- In **1976**, he was awarded the **Padma Bhushan**, India's third-highest civilian award.
- In **1998**, **UNESCO** created the **Malcolm Adiseshiah International Literacy Prize** in recognition of his **contribution to education and literacy**.
- He was **nominated to the Rajya Sabha**, the upper house of the Parliament of India, in **1978**.
- He served as the **Vice Chancellor of the University of Madras** from 1975 to 1978.
- He was the founder of the **Madras Institute of Development Studies (MIDS)**.
- He was associated with a number of professional bodies both in India and abroad.



मराठी

The Great Indian Bustard

Why in news?

- The **Supreme Court of India** has recently **recognised a fundamental right to be free from the adverse impacts of climate change**.
- This judgment has attracted significant attention, particularly from environmentalists, with a focus on its implications for the protection of the **Great Indian Bustard**.

About The Great Indian Bustard:

- The Great Indian Bustard is considered a **flagship species of grassland ecology**, indicating the health of the ecosystem.
- The majority of its population is **found in Rajasthan and Gujarat**, with smaller populations in **Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh**.
- The species is listed as **Critically Endangered** according to the **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)**.
- It is protected under **Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972**.
- The species is listed in **Appendix I** of both the **Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)** and the **Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)**, indicating it is among the most endangered species in the world.





मराठी

Heat Action Plans (HAPs)

Why in news?

- The **India Meteorological Department (IMD)** has predicted an **increase in the maximum temperature** and the **frequency of heatwave conditions** in the upcoming days, particularly over **eastern and southern India**.
- In response, governments at various levels — including State, district, and city — have prepared **Heat Action Plans (HAPs)**.

About Heat Action Plans (HAPs):

- The **National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)** and **India Meteorological Department (IMD)** are collaborating with **23 states** to develop **HAPs**.
- HAPs serve as a comprehensive **early warning system** and **preparedness plan for extreme heat events**.
- The plan includes both immediate and long-term actions to:
 - Increase preparedness
 - Enhance information-sharing
 - Improve response coordination
- The **primary goal of HAPs** is to **reduce the health impacts of extreme heat** on vulnerable populations.
- On a regional level, the **Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC)** prepared the **first Heat Action Plan in 2013**, in response to the devastating heatwave-related deaths in 2010.

What is Heatwave?

- A heat wave, sometimes described as **extreme heat**, is a period of **abnormally hot weather**.
- It is usually measured **relative to the usual climate in the area** and to normal temperatures for the season.
- **High humidity** often accompanies heat waves, especially in oceanic climate countries.
- **In India**, the **India Meteorological Department (IMD)** has specific **criteria for declaring a heat wave**.
- It is considered if the **maximum temperature** of a station reaches at least **40°C or more for Plains**, and at least **30°C or more for Hilly regions**. If the above criteria are met at least in **2 stations in a Meteorological sub-division** for at least **two consecutive days**, it is declared a heatwave on the second day.



मराठी

Nagorno-Karabakh region

Why in news?

- Russian peacekeepers have started withdrawing from **Nagorno-Karabakh**, a **territory disputed between Azerbaijan and Armenia**.
- The conflict has affected ties between Russia and Armenia, with Armenia suspending its participation in the Moscow-led **Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO)**.

About Nagorno-Karabakh region:

- **Geography:** Nagorno-Karabakh is a **landlocked**, mountainous, and forested region located in the **South Caucasus region**. It is **internationally recognized as part of Azerbaijan**.
- **Control:** Most of the region is controlled by Armenian separatists, despite being part of Azerbaijan territory since the Soviet era.
- **Current Status:** The area, while remaining in Azerbaijan, is **governed by separatist Armenians** who have declared it a republic called the **“Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast”**. The Armenian government supports the region politically and militarily but does not recognize it as independent.
- **Peace Efforts:** The **Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Minsk Group**, chaired by **France, Russia, and the US**, has tried to get the two countries to reach a peace agreement for several years.





मराठी

ADDAPEDIA

Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

MCQs

1. Who can apply to the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) to pay to “restore” ‘degraded’ forest lands?
 - a. Only individuals
 - b. Only companies
 - c. Both individuals and companies
 - d. None of the above

Answer: Both individuals and companies

Explanation:

- The **Green Credit Programme (GCP)** encourages organisations and individuals to invest in afforestation projects in ‘degraded’ forest lands for ‘green credits’.
 - The **Union Environment Ministry**, the coordinator of the programme, emphasizes restoring ecosystems over merely tree planting.
 - Individuals and companies can apply to the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) to pay to “restore” ‘degraded’ forest lands. Hence option c is correct.
 - **Two years** after planting and following an evaluation by the ICFRE, each planted tree could be worth one ‘green credit.’
 - **These credits can be used to**
 - Comply with existing forest laws or for reporting under environmental, social and governance leadership norms or to meet **corporate social responsibility requirements**.
-
2. Which organization created the Malcolm Adiseshiah International Literacy Prize in 1998 in recognition of Malcolm Sathiyathan Adiseshiah’s contribution to education and literacy?
 - a. Madras Institute of Development Studies (MIDS)
 - b. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
 - c. Ministry of Education, India
 - d. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

Answer: The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

Explanation:

- **Malcolm Sathiyathan Adiseshiah** (18 April 1910 – 21 November 1994) was an **Indian development economist and educator**.
- He was born in Vellore, **Tamil Nadu**.
- He obtained a **doctorate in economics** at the London School of Economics.
- In **1976**, he was awarded the **Padma Bhushan**, India’s third-highest civilian award.



मराठी

- In 1998, UNESCO created the Malcolm Adiseshan International Literacy Prize in recognition of his ~~contribution to education and literacy~~.

- He was **nominated to the Rajya Sabha**, the upper house of the Parliament of India, in **1978**.
- He served as the **Vice Chancellor of the University of Madras** from 1975 to 1978.
- He was the founder of the **Madras Institute of Development Studies (MIDS)**.
- He was associated with a number of professional bodies both in India and abroad.

3. Under which schedule of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 is the Great Indian Bustard protected?
- a. Schedule I
 - b. Schedule II
 - c. Schedule III
 - d. Schedule IV

Answer: Schedule I

Explanation:

- The Great Indian Bustard is considered a **flagship species of grassland ecology**, indicating the health of the ecosystem.
- The majority of its population is **found in Rajasthan and Gujarat**, with smaller populations in **Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh**.
- The species is listed as **Critically Endangered** according to the **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)**.
- It is protected under **Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972**. Hence option a is correct.
- The species is listed in **Appendix I** of both the **Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)** and the **Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)**, indicating it is among the most endangered species in the world.

4. Which two organizations are collaborating with 23 states to develop Heat Action Plans (HAPs)?
- a. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and India Meteorological Department
 - b. National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and India Meteorological Department
 - c. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) and National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM)
 - d. National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC)



मराठी

Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

~~Answer: National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and India Meteorological Department~~

Explanation:

- The **National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)** and **India Meteorological Department (IMD)** are collaborating with **23 states** to develop **Heat Action Plans (HAPs)**.
- HAPs serve as a comprehensive **early warning system** and **preparedness plan for extreme heat events**.
- The plan includes both immediate and long-term actions to:
 - Increase preparedness
 - Enhance information-sharing
 - Improve response coordination
- The **primary goal of HAPs** is to **reduce the health impacts of extreme heat** on vulnerable populations.
- On a regional level, the **Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC)** prepared **the first Heat Action Plan in 2013**, in response to the devastating heatwave-related deaths in 2010.

5. Nagorno-Karabakh is a disputed region between which of the following countries?
- a. Israel and Syria
 - b. Denmark and Sweden
 - c. Russia and Ukraine
 - d. Azerbaijan and Armenia

Answer: Azerbaijan and Armenia

Explanation:

- Russian peacekeepers have started withdrawing from **Nagorno-Karabakh, a territory disputed between Azerbaijan and Armenia**.
- The conflict has affected ties between Russia and Armenia, with Armenia suspending its participation in the Moscow-led **Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO)**.
- **Geography:** Nagorno-Karabakh is a **landlocked**, mountainous, and forested region located in the **South Caucasus region**. It is **internationally recognized as part of Azerbaijan**.
- **Control:** Most of the region is controlled by Armenian separatists, despite being part of Azerbaijan territory since the Soviet era.
- **Current Status:** The area, while remaining in Azerbaijan, is governed by **separatist Armenians** who have declared it a republic called the "**Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast**". The Armenian government supports the region politically and militarily but does not recognize it as independent.
- **Peace Efforts:** The **Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe**



ADDAPEDIA

मराठी

Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

(OSCE) Minsk Group, chaired by France, Russia, and the US, has tried to get the two countries to reach a peace agreement for several years.

Copyright © by Adda247

All rights are reserved. No part of this document may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without prior permission of Adda247.

BILINGUAL
ADDAPEDIA
e-Books

NATIONAL |
INTERNATIONAL |
REGIONAL |
STATE SPECIFIC
CURRENT AFFAIRS
CURATED NOTES

IMPORTANT FOR ALL COMPETITIVE EXAMS