



## 29 June 2024

### **National and International News**

Rhisotope Project	Why in the news?							
	<ul> <li>South African scientists have injected radioactive material into liver rhinoceros horns as part of the Rhisotope Project to help curpoaching.</li> </ul>							
	About Rhisotope Project:							
	Initiation: The project started in 2021 in South Africa.							
	Objective: To make rhinoceros horns easier to detect at border posts							
	and render them useless for human consumption.							
	Implementation:							
	<ul> <li>Two tiny radioactive chips are inserted into the horns of 20 rhinos.</li> </ul>							
	<ul> <li>The low-dose radioactive material is detectable by radiation sensors at international borders without harming the animals or the environment.</li> </ul>							
	<ul> <li>Duration: The radioactive material lasts for five years, offering a cost- effective solution compared to dehorning every 18 months.</li> </ul>							
	<ul> <li>Context: South Africa, home to the majority of the world's rhinos, is battling a poaching crisis driven by demand from Asia for traditional medicine.</li> </ul>							
Bhuvan Panchayat	Why in the news?							
(Ver. 4.0) and	The Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and							
National Database	Technology will launch two geoportals: Bhuvan Panchayat (Ver. 4.0)							
for Emergency	and the National Database for Emergency Management (NDEM Ver.							
Management	<b>5.0</b> ).							
(NDEM Ver. 5.0)	About Bhuyan Banchayat (Var. 4.0):							
	About Bhuvan Panchayat (Ver. 4.0):  • Platform Purpose: An online geospatial data and services							
	dissemination platform supporting the integration and utilization of							
	space-based information in governance and research initiatives,							
	including spatial planning up to the Gram Panchayat level.							
	<ul> <li>Developed By: This WebGIS platform is developed by National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), ISRO.</li> </ul>							





Provides a comprehensive, uniform, multi-scale geospatial database for the entire country for situational assessment and effective decision-making during disasters/emergency situations.  Acts as a national-level geo-portal offering space-based information, combined with DSS tools and services from disaster forecasting organizations, to address all natural disasters in all phases for effective Disaster Risk Reduction.  Functions as a Disaster Recovery and Data Provider node for the Integrated Control Room for Emergency Response (ICR-ER) being established by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).  Why in the news?  NASA's Juno probe has made new findings about Jupiter's moon lo.  These findings provide a more comprehensive view of the distribution of lava lakes on lo.  The research highlights the extensive presence of lava lakes across the moon's surface.  About NASA's Juno probe:  Acronym: JUNO stands for Jupiter Near-Polar Orbiter.  Type: NASA spacecraft designed to orbit Jupiter.  Launch Details: Launched by Atlas V rocket.  Date: August 5, 2011.  Main Goal: Understand Jupiter's origins and its changes over time.  Mission Details:  Probing beneath Jupiter's dense clouds.		About NDEM Ver. 5.0:						
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<ul> <li>Solar-powered spacecraft.</li> </ul>		o First orbiter to closely observe Jupiter's poles. o Solar-nowered spacecraft						
<ul> <li>Exploring Jupiter's moons: Ganymede, Europa, and Io.</li> </ul>								





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#### Why in the news?

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
recently completed six consecutive developmental trials of the HighSpeed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) 'ABHYAS' in Chandipur,
Odisha.

#### **About ABHYAS:**

- Design and Development:
  - Designed by DRDO's Aeronautical Development Establishment, Bengaluru.
  - Developed through Production Agencies: Hindustan Aeronautics Limited and Larsen & Toubro.
- Features:
  - **Provides a realistic threat scenario** for weapon systems practice.
  - Autonomous flying capability with autopilot.
  - Records data during flight for post-flight analysis.
- Components:
  - Booster designed by Advanced Systems Laboratory.
  - Navigation system by Research Centre Imarat.





#### **Mainland serow**



#### Why in the news?

 A team of scientists recorded a lone mainland serow (Capricornis sumatraensis thar) at an elevation of 96 metres above mean sea level in Raimona National Park, western Assam.

#### **About Mainland serow:**

- Mammal Characteristics: Appears between a goat and an antelope.
- Habitat:
  - o **Altitudes**: 200-3,000 metres.
  - Distribution: Across the India-Bhutan border in Phibsoo Wildlife Sanctuary and the Royal Manas National Park in the Himalayan region.
- Species:
  - Mainland serow.
  - Japanese serow.
  - Red serow (found in eastern India, Bangladesh, and Myanmar).
  - Taiwan or Formosan serow.
- Conservation Status:
  - IUCN: Vulnerable.
  - **CITES**: Appendix I.

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