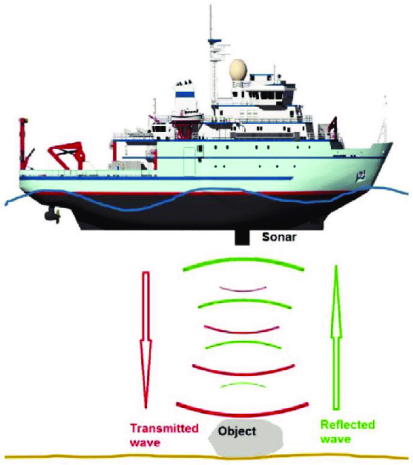
13 August 2024

Maharashtra State News

Maharashtra Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1960	**Why in the news?** • The **Maharashtra state government** has **notified geoglyphs and petroglyphs in Ratnagiri** as **'protected monuments'** under the **Maharashtra Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1960**. **About the act**: • The Maharashtra Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1960 is a legislative framework **aimed at preserving ancient and historical monuments, archaeological sites**, and remains within the state of Maharashtra. • **Protected Monuments**: The Act **allows the state government to declare certain ancient and historical monuments as protected monuments**. • **Preservation and Maintenance**: It includes **provisions for the preservation and maintenance of these monuments**, including agreements with owners and the acquisition of rights. • **Archaeological Sites**: The Act also **covers the declaration of archaeological sites and remains as protected areas**, with restrictions on property rights to ensure their preservation. • **Excavations and Antiquities**: It **regulates archaeological excavations in protected areas** and the **handling of antiquities** discovered during such excavations. • **Penalties and Enforcement**: The Act outlines penalties for violations and provides **mechanisms for the enforcement of its provisions**.
Institutional Capacity Building Project	**Why in the news?** • **Chief minister of Maharashtra** launched the **Institutional Capacity Building Project**, a $188 million programme with the help of the **World Bank**. **About Institutional Capacity Building Project:**

	• **Aim**: To **promote district-level development** in **Maharashtra**. • Recommended by the **Maharashtra Economic Development Advisory Council**. • **Focus on income growth** and **development at the district level**. • The Maharashtra government **will receive Rs 1,562 crore from the World Bank for this project**.
Maharashtra Resilient Development Program	**Why in the news?** • **The Chief minister of Maharashtra** launched the **Maharashtra Resilient Development Program**, with the help of the **World Bank**. **About Maharashtra Resilient Development Program**: • Focus: **Controlling the flood situation** in the **Krishna Bhima basin**, particularly in **Kolhapur and Sangli districts**. • The project is worth Rs 3,200 crore. • Rs 2,240 crore **financial assistance will be provided by the World Bank**. • This initiative is **part of a broader effort to enhance the state's resilience to climate-related challenges** and **promote sustainable development**.
Sonar system at Totladoh reservoir	**Why in the news?** • The **Pench Tiger Reserve (PTR) in Maharashtra** has taken a **significant step by deploying an advanced sonar system to combat illegal fishing** in the **Totladoh reservoir**. **Key points**: • This **technology can detect objects hidden up to 500 feet underwater**, making it much harder for fishermen to evade detection. • Despite the **ban on fishing in the tiger reserve under the Wildlife Protection Act (WPA) 1972**, **illegal fishing activities have persisted**. • The **sonar system is expected to enhance the enforcement of these laws** by **identifying and locating hidden boats** and other objects underwater.
Sonar system	**Why in the news?** • The **Pench Tiger Reserve (PTR) in Maharashtra** has taken a **significant step by deploying an advanced sonar system to combat illegal fishing** in the **Totladoh reservoir**.



About Sonar system:

- **SONAR stands for Sound Navigation and Ranging**.
- It is a **technology that uses sound waves to detect objects**, **measure distances**, and **navigate underwater environments**.
- **Applications**:
  - **Military**: Used in submarines and ships for navigation, detecting other vessels, and underwater warfare.
  - **Navigation**: Helps in navigation by detecting underwater obstacles, measuring depth, and guiding vessels.
  - **Fishing**: Locates schools of fish and other marine life.
  - **Oceanography**: Used in mapping the seafloor, studying marine habitats, and detecting underwater geological features.
  - **Search and Rescue**: Locates submerged objects, such as wreckage or drowning victims.
- **Working Principle**:
  - **Sound Waves**: Sonar systems emit sound waves that travel through water, bounce off objects, and return as echoes.
  - **Echo Analysis**: The time taken for the echo to return is used to calculate the distance and location of the object.

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