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20 May 2024

### National & International News

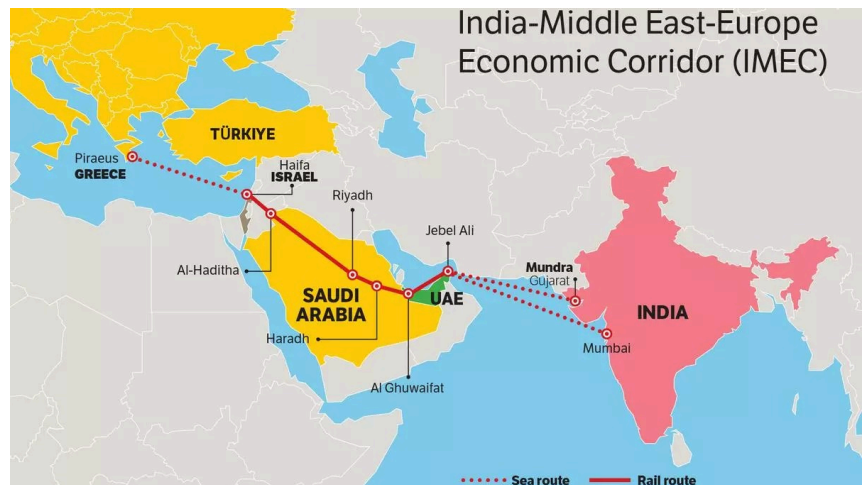
#### India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEEC)

#### Why in news?

- An Indian delegation recently visited the UAE to hold discussions with key entities regarding the **India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEEC)**.

#### About IMEEC:

- **Objective:**
  - Enhance connectivity and economic integration between India, the Middle East, and Europe.
- **Key Components:**
  - Railways
  - Highways
  - Maritime routes
  - Energy infrastructure
  - Digital connectivity
- **Participating Regions:**
  - South Asia (India)
  - Middle East
  - Europe
- **Strategic Importance:**
  - Facilitates trade and investment flows.
  - Reduces transit times and costs for goods and services.
  - Promotes economic cooperation and development.





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## Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

### Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU)

#### Why in news?

- India is “seriously considering” starting talks for a free trade agreement with the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU).

#### About EAEU:

- **Formation:** Established on January 1, 2015.
- **Members:** Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Russia.
- **Objective:** To create a single market for goods, services, capital, and labor.
- **Headquarters:** Located in Moscow, Russia.
- **Languages:** Russian is the official working language.
- **Customs Union:** EAEU operates as a customs union, eliminating customs duties and controls at internal borders.
- **Single Market:** Aims to allow free movement of goods, services, capital, and labor among member states.

### National Endangered Species Day



#### Why in news?

- National Endangered Species Day is celebrated on May 17.

#### About National Endangered Species Day:

- **Purpose:** To create awareness about the consequences of human activities and actions to save endangered species.
- **Date:** Observed annually on the third Friday of May.
- **History:**
  - Established in 2006 by David Robinson and the Endangered Species Coalition.
  - **Aim:** To urge people to contribute to the safety and protection of endangered species.
- According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), 40% of animals, insects, and plants are at risk of extinction.
- **Theme for 2024:** "Celebrate Saving Species"



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### Iberian lynx



### Why in news?

- The endangered Iberian lynx population doubles in 3 years.

### About the Iberian lynx:

- **Endemic Carnivore Species:**
  - One of two carnivore species **endemic to Europe** (the other being **European mink, Mustela lutreola**).
  - The **world's most endangered carnivore**.
- **Sexually dimorphic:** males are heavier and longer than females.
- **Behavior:**
  - Generally **nocturnal**.
  - Activity patterns **closely synchronized with those of their major prey, the rabbit**.
- **Distribution:**
  - Once distributed throughout the **Iberian Peninsula**.
  - Now sparsely distributed in **Spain and Portugal**.
- **Conservation Status:**
  - **IUCN Red List: Endangered**.
  - **CITES: Appendix II**.



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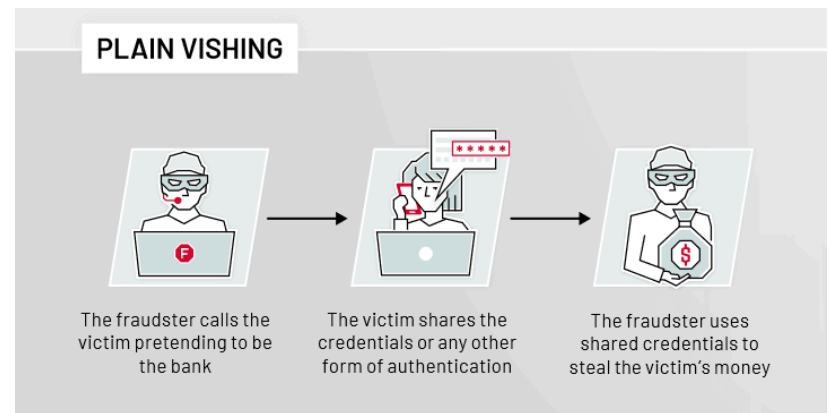
### Vishing

#### Why in news?

- The government has recently released a **circular** about **sophisticated cybercrime**.
- The specific cybercrime mentioned is **vishing**.

#### About Vishing:

- Vishing, or "**voice phishing**," is a **type of scam where attackers use phone calls to trick individuals into providing personal, financial, or confidential information**.
- **Techniques Used:**
  - **Caller ID Spoofing:** Attackers disguise their phone numbers to appear as if they are calling from a legitimate source, such as a bank or government agency.
  - **Pretexting:** Scammers create a plausible scenario to convince the victim to share sensitive information.
  - **Urgency and Fear Tactics:** Vishing calls often involve a sense of urgency, such as threats of legal action or account suspension, to pressure victims into compliance.



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