

# DAILY PT POINTERS

31<sup>st</sup> January, 2024



# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

## PIB: GS3-Environment

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change



### Shri Bhupender Yadav releases the Status Report of Snow Leopards in India

Posted On: 30 JAN 2024 1:33PM by PIB Delhi

Union Minister of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, Shri Bhupender Yadav released the report on the Status of Snow leopards in India during the National Board for Wildlife meeting held in New Delhi today. The Snow Leopard Population Assessment in India (SPAI) Program is the first-ever scientific exercise that reports Snow leopard population of 718 individuals in India.



## News

- Recently, the Union Environment Ministry's first census report on the elusive Himalayan cats was released.

## About

- The **Snow Leopard Population Assessment in India (SPAI)** began in 2019 and involves the World Wide Fund for Nature-India and the Nature Conservation Foundation, Mysuru, along with the Wildlife Institute of India (WII).

## Key Findings

- India has an estimated 718 snow leopards in the wild.
- The maximum number of cats were estimated to be in Ladakh (477), followed by Uttarakhand (124), Himachal Pradesh (51), Arunachal Pradesh (36), Sikkim (21), and Jammu and Kashmir (9).

## IUCN Status:

- The snow leopard is classified as '**vulnerable**' by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature.



# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

## PIB: GS2-Governance

DoT Secretary Dr Neeraj Mittal Launches Bharat 5G Portal and Venture Capitalists/Investors meeting at Bharat Telecom 2024

Bharat 5G Portal acts as one-stop solution for all quantum, IPR, PoCs/Pilots, 5G, and 6G-related works

Featuring Future Tech-Experts registration portal in collaboration with PANIIT USA

DoT calls for 6G R&D proposals for accelerated research on 6G ecosystem development

Posted On: 30 JAN 2024 5:50PM by PIB Delhi



## News

- The Ministry of Communications (MoC) has launched the “Bharat 5G Portal- an integrated portal” on the sidelines of ‘Bharat Telecom 2024 - An Exclusive International Business Expo’.

### About Bharat 5G Portal- an integrate portal

- The Bharat 5G portal- an integrated portal is a comprehensive platform serving the interests of startups, industry, and academia in quantum, 6G, IPR, and 5G domains.
- It aims to propel India's 5G capabilities, foster innovation, collaboration, and knowledge-sharing within the telecom sector.

IE: GS3-Science and Technology

# Why hybrid vehicles could be a cleaner solution for India than EVs, at least for the next 7-10 years

## News

- According to HSBC Research, hybrid vehicles could be a cleaner solution for India than Electric Vehicles, at least for the next 7-10 years.

## Hybrid vehicles

- The vehicle uses both the internal combustion (usually petrol) engine and the battery-powered motor powertrain.
- The petrol engine is used both to drive and charge when the battery is empty.

## Benefits of Hybrid vehicle

- The total carbon emissions from an EV is currently 158 g/km, compared to 133 g/km for hybrids — which means that a hybrid is at least 16% less polluting than the corresponding EV.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

## Indian Express: GS2-Governance

News / India / Corruption index: India ranks 93 among 180 nations

# Corruption index: India ranks 93 among 180 nations

In 2023, India's overall score was 39 while in 2022, it was 40. India's rank in 2022 was 85. In the Asian region, Singapore ranked at the top, scoring 83 and occupying the fifth slot.



### News

- Recently, the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2023 was released by Transparency International.

### About

- The CPI ranks 180 countries and territories around the globe by their perceived levels of public sector corruption, scoring on a scale of 0 (highly corrupt) to 100 (very clean).

### Key Findings

- Denmark is at the top, followed by Finland, New Zealand and Norway.
- In the Asian region, Singapore ranked at the top, occupying the fifth slot overall.
- India ranked 93.
- At rank 180 was Somalia with the lowest score of 11.

The Hindu: GS1- History and Culture

## India nominates 12 forts of Marathas for UNESCO World Heritage List



### News

- India has nominated the “Maratha Military Landscapes”, a network of forts, for inclusion in the UNESCO World Heritage list for 2024-25.

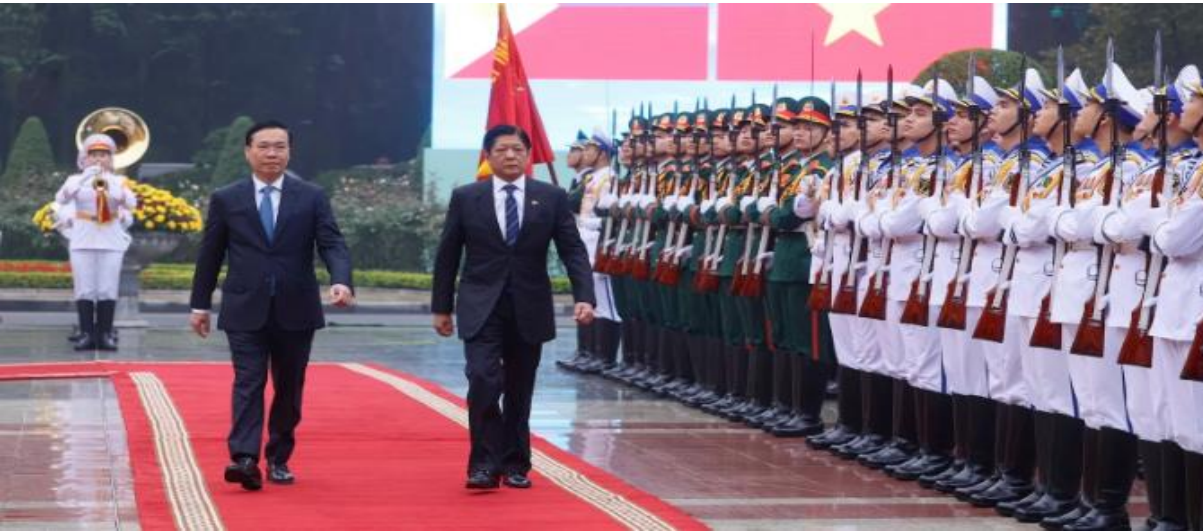
### About

- The 12 components of this nomination are the forts of Salher, Shivneri, Lohagad, Khanderi, Raigad, Rajgad, Pratapgad, Suvarnadurg, Panhala, Vijaydurg and Sindhudurg in Maharashtra and Gingee Fort in Tamil Nadu.
- The “Maratha Military Landscapes”, which developed between 17th and 19th centuries, represent an extraordinary fortification and military system envisioned by the Maratha rulers.
- They are distributed across diverse geographical and physiographic regions and showcase the strategic military powers of the Maratha rule.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu: GS2-International Relations

## Philippines and Vietnam agree to expand cooperation in South China Sea, which Beijing also claims



### News

- The Philippines and Vietnam have signed agreements to avoid incidents in the South China Sea and broaden cooperation between their coast guards.

### About

- The two countries also signed a deal for Vietnam to supply the Philippines **with 1.5 million to 2 million metric tons** (1.6 to 2.2 million U.S. tons) of rice each year at affordable prices.

### South China Sea

- **Location:** It is bounded on the northeast by **the Taiwan Strait**, on the east by Taiwan and the Philippines; on the southeast and south by Borneo, the southern limit of the **Gulf of Thailand**, and the east coast of the Malay Peninsula; and on the west and north by the Asian mainland.
- Southeast Asian countries like **China, Vietnam, the Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia, and Taiwan** have had disputes over the contentious South China Sea region **for centuries**.