

DAILY PT POINTERS

12th February, 2024



HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu: Page 12-Health

Over 3 lakh ASHAs apply for Centre's health cover

The Centre had announced that it would cover anganwadi workers and helpers, as well as ASHAs, under AB-PMJAY; Health Ministry to get their healthcare cards ready before end of the month



- The second component under Ayushman Bharat is the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana or PM-JAY as it is popularly known. This scheme was launched on 23rd September, 2018 in Ranchi, Jharkhand by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi.
- Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY is the largest health assurance scheme in the world which aims at providing a health cover of Rs. 5 lakhs per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization
- The households included are based on the deprivation and occupational criteria of Socio-Economic Caste Census 2011 (SECC 2011) for rural and urban areas respectively.

The Hindu: Environment-Page 18

WHAT IS IT?

Brumation: winter is coming for reptiles

Arkatapa Basu

Is an alligator lying still underwater, with its snout alone sticking out, alive or dead? If this is the situation, there's a third possibility: brumation. This is the name to describe a period of dormancy or slowed activity in reptiles, much like hibernation in mammals. It typically occurs during colder months, when temperatures drop and food becomes scarce. Reptiles enter a state of brumation to conserve energy and survive these adverse environmental conditions.

During brumation, reptiles may retreat to underground burrows, rock crevices or other sheltered areas where temperatures are relatively more stable. Their metabolism slows significantly, allowing them to go weeks or even months without eating. This period of reduced activity allows reptiles to conserve energy and minimise their resource requirements.

Researchers have observed instances of brumation in various reptilian species across habitats



During brumation reptiles can slow metabolism significantly, allowing them to go weeks or even months without eating. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

to survive cold climes and endure challenging environmental conditions, until they can reemerge to feed and reproduce in more favourable climes.

- Brumation is a period of dormancy in **reptiles**. It is similar to **hibernation** in mammals. During brumation, reptiles shut down their bodies to conserve energy.
- They may not move, defecate, drink, or eat for several weeks.
- Brumation is crucial for reptiles to survive cold climes and endure challenging environmental conditions, until they can reemerge to feed and reproduce in more favourable climes.

Indian Express: Page 6-GS-3(Economy)

PM-SVANidhi boosted annual income of street vendors by Rs 23,000: Study

PM SVANidhi was launched in 2020 to help street vendors resume their livelihood impacted by the Covid-19 lockdown, by offering them affordable working capital loans.

- The Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) scheme, an initiative under the aegis of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)
- The PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbharNidhi (PM SVANidhi) Scheme, launched on June 1, 2020, is a micro credit scheme for urban street vendors that aims to provide collateral-free working capital loans up to ₹50,000.
- Under the scheme regular repayments are incentivized with a 7% interest subsidy and digital transactions are rewarded with cashback up to ₹1,200 per year.
- Under the PM SVANidhi Scheme, all street vendors engaged in vending in urban areas are eligible. These Street Vendors should have either a Certificate of Vending (CoV) or a Letter of Recommendation (LoR) issued by the respective Town Vending Committee (TVC).

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

Indian Express: History-Page 11

Why Charan Singh was a messiah for farmers

His land reform laws created a new socially and politically empowered middle peasantry in northern India that also saw its economic fortunes rise with the Green Revolution.



- Chaudhary Charan Singh was born on December 23, 1902 in village Noorpur, town Hapur, District Ghaziabad of Uttar Pradesh in a poor peasant's family.
- .In February 1937 he was elected to the Legislative Assembly of Uttar Pradesh (United Provinces) Chhaprouli (Baghpat) at the age of 34. In 1938 he introduced an Agricultural Produce Market Bill in the Assembly which was intended to safeguard the interests of the farmers against the rapacity of the traders. The Bill was adopted by most of the States in India. He was influenced by Mahatma Gandhi's non-violence and entered India's Independence Movement. After India's independence he came to be associated with socialism in the rural areas. In 1952 he was Revenue Minister of Uttar Pradesh and one of his major contributions was that he did away with the Zamindari system and also brought in Land Reform Acts.
- He was a strong opponent of Nehru's socialism and fell out with the Congress party. He left Congress in 1967 and formed his independent party known as the Bharatiya Lok Dal. He served twice as Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh. He became Prime Minister of India in 1979

What is Nazool land, behind recent dispute and violence in Haldwani?

Nazool land is primarily owned by the state. But it can be allotted to any entity on lease for a fixed period.



- Nazool land is owned by the government but most often not directly administered as state property. The state generally allots such land to any entity on lease for a fixed period, generally between 15 and 99 years.
- In case the lease term is expiring, one can approach the authority to renew the lease by submitting a written application to the Revenue Department of the local development authority. The government is free to either renew the lease or cancel it — taking back Nazool land. In almost all major cities of India, Nazool land has been allotted to different entities for a variety of different purposes. **How did Nazool land emerge?**
- During British rule, kings and kingdoms which opposed the British frequently revolted against them, leading to several battles between them and the British Army. Upon defeating these kings in battle, the British would often take their land away from them.
- After India got Independence, the British vacated these lands. But with kings and royals often lacking proper documentation to prove prior ownership, these lands were marked as Nazool land — to be owned by the respective state governments.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



PIB:History(GSI)

Prime Minister's Office

PM addresses programme on 200th birth anniversary of Maharshi Dayananda Saraswati

"In times when our traditions and spirituality were fading, Swami Dayananda called upon us to go 'Back to Vedas'"

"Maharshi Dayananda was not just a Vedic sage but also a national sage"

"The faith that Swamiji had about India, we will have to convert that faith into our self-confidence in Amrit Kaal"

"Through honest endeavours and new policies, the nation is advancing its daughters"

Posted On: 11 FEB 2024 12:32PM by PIB Delhi

- Swami Dayanand Saraswati, who founded the reform association called Arya Samaj, also supported widow remarriage
- Born as **Mul Shankar Tiwari**, Swami Dayananda was a social reformer, hailing his contributions towards the fight against **social discrimination and untouchability**.
- **Birth:** He was born on **February 12, 1824, at Tankara located in Gujarat**.
- **Education:** He learnt Sanskrit and the Vedas in his childhood.
- He stressed the importance of education for all children and preached respect and equal rights for women.
- He also preached against the giving of donations to priests. He also challenged established scholars and won debates against them through the strength of the Vedas.
- He was staunchly against rituals and superstitions.
- He wrote many books. His major contribution is Satyarth **Prakash**. Other books include **Sanskarvidhi, Rigved Bhashyam**, etc.
- **Death:** He was poisoned during his stay at the palace of the Maharaja of Jodhpur, Jaswant Singh II.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB:S&T(GSIII)



- Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India Prof Ajay Kumar Sood today launched “Science for Women-A Technology & Innovation (SWATI)” Portal, aimed at creating a single online portal representing Indian Women and Girls in STEMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics & Medicine)
- Launching the Portal on the occasion of International Day of Women and Girls in Science at Indian National Science Academy (INSA), New Delhi, Prof Sood said, the database of SWATI Portal will serve in policy making to address the challenges of Gender-gap.
- The Portal is a complete interactive database; and the first-of-its-kind in India which is developed, hosted and maintained by the National Institute of Plant Genome Research (NIPGR),
- The objectives of the SWATI portal include to scale up the effort exponentially to include each and every Indian woman in science, across all career stages and subjects, spanning both academia and the industry, enabling reliable and statistically significant long term research on the issues of equality, diversity and inclusivity in India.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



PIB:S&T(GSIII)/Health (GSII)

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare



Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, Prof. S P Singh Baghel
Launches Mass Drug Administration (MDA) campaign for Lymphatic Filariasis
elimination

All stakeholders need to come together to make it a people's movement: Prof. S P Singh Baghel

Posted On: 10 FEB 2024 12:54PM by PIB Delhi

- Lymphatic filariasis, commonly known as elephantiasis, is a neglected tropical disease. Infection occurs when filarial parasites are transmitted to humans through mosquitoes. Infection is usually acquired in childhood and causes hidden damage to the lymphatic system.
- Lymphatic filariasis is caused by infection with parasites classified as nematodes (roundworms) of the family Filarioididea.
- **Lymphatic filariasis can be eliminated by stopping the spread of infection through preventive chemotherapy with safe medicine combinations repeated annually.**
- India has recently taken several measures to accelerate progress towards the goal of eliminating Lymphatic Filariasis
Lymphatic Filariasis (elephantiasis) is a priority disease which is targeted to be eliminated by 2027.
- Lymphatic filariasis affects over 120 million people in 72 countries throughout the tropics and sub-tropics of Asia, Africa, the Western Pacific, and parts of the Caribbean and South America.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB: Miscellaneous

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6 Indian boxers to fight in finals of 75th International Boxing Tournament, STRANDJA 2024 later today



6 Indian boxers to fight in finals of 75th International Boxing Tournament, STRANDJA 2024
In the 75th International Boxing Tournament, STRANDJA 2024, six Indian boxers to fight in the finals later today.