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Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

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Maharashtra State Specific News

Maharashtra Mangrove Cell

Why in news?

- The **Maharashtra Mangrove Cell** has commissioned the **Maharashtra Remote Sensing Application Centre (MRSAC)** to conduct a new **satellite-based survey of the mangroves along the state's coastline.**
- It aims to **understand the spread and destruction of mangroves.**

Key points:

- The survey will span two years and **cover seven coastal districts:**
 - Sindhurg,
 - Ratnagiri,
 - Raigad,
 - Thane,
 - Mumbai,
 - Mumbai Suburban, and
 - Palghar.

About Maharashtra Mangrove Cell:

- The Maharashtra Mangrove Cell is a **dedicated unit established by the Government of Maharashtra for the protection, conservation, and management of mangroves.**
- The Mangrove Cell was created on **5th January 2012.**
- It is the **first such state-wide unit in the country.**
- The Cell is **headed by the Chief Conservator of Forests.**



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<p>SVEEP (Systematic Voters' Education & Electoral Participation)</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Nashik district in Maharashtra, India, has implemented measures to support blind voters in the upcoming 2024 Lok Sabha elections.• The District Election Office and the Nashik District SVEEP (Systematic Voters' Education & Electoral Participation) Committee have been organizing a series of voter awareness rallies. <p>About SVEEP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SVEEP is a program designed by the Election Commission of India aimed at increasing voter education and participation, ensuring that all eligible citizens are informed and motivated to vote during elections.• It was officially launched in 2009 to address the low voter turnout in Indian elections and to tackle the issues of electoral participation across various demographics. <p>National Association for the Blind, India (NAB):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To further facilitate the voting process, ballot papers in Braille will be provided by the National Association for the Blind, India (NAB), enabling blind voters to cast their votes on electronic voting machines (EVMs) with ease.• Braille numbers will also be affixed to the EVMs for tactile identification.
<p>Bengal Monitor Lizard Hemipenes and Soft corals</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 781 Bengal Monitor Lizard Hemipenes and 19.6 kg of soft corals were seized in Mumbai.• The seizure was made by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI)'s Mumbai zonal unit. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The endangered Bengal Monitor Lizards are found in Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Rajasthan.• The reproductive organ of a male monitor lizard is suspected to be illegally traded as a lucky charm/aphrodisiac by traffickers.• Soft corals are trafficked for use in the aquarium trade, and some species are used in traditional medicines and for extracting compounds for pharmaceutical potential.



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<p>Maharashtra becomes first Indian state to buy land in Kashmir</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maharashtra is set to become the first Indian state to buy land in the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir for the construction of a tourist facility. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The facility, named Maharashtra Bhawan, will be constructed in central Kashmir's Budgam.• This will be the first-ever state Bhavan in the valley.• Before the abrogation of Article 370, only the permanent residents of Jammu and Kashmir could buy land in the erstwhile state. However, the government could lease lands for up to 99 years to industries and people from outside.
<p>Ahmednagar becomes Ahilya Nagar, Maharashtra Cabinet approves name change</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Maharashtra Cabinet has decided to rename Ahmednagar district as Ahilya Nagar after the 18th-century queen Ahilyabai Holkar.• The proposal to rename the city was first announced by Maharashtra Chief Minister on the 298th birth anniversary of Ahilyabai Holkar.• Earlier, the Maharashtra government changed the names of Aurangabad and Osmanabad to Chatrapati Sambhaji Nagar and Dharashiv, respectively.

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