





Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia



11 November 2023 West Bengal News

Efforts for GI status of Kalna town's 'Nora Pantua'	 Context: State Animal Resources Development (ARD) minister Swapan Debnath has written to Ujjal Biswas, Minister in Charge (MIC) of Science & Technology and BioTechnology department. The letter urges necessary measures for Geographical Indication (GI) approval of 'Nora Pantua' – a unique refined sweetmeat from Kalna town in East Burdwan district. Do You Know? 'Nora Pantua' is a unique refined sweet from Kalna, known for its distinct taste. Kalna in East Burdwan district is described as a heritage town with notable religious structures, including 108 Shiva temples, Siddheshwari temple, Mahaprabhu temple, Pratapeshwar temple, and Gopalbari temple. Kalna holds a special place on the tourism map, attracting visitors from the state, country, and abroad. Key Facts: The proposal for GI status for 'Nora Pantua' is being taken seriously by the concerned department, as indicated by Ujjal Biswas. Swapan Debnath's letter emphasizes the cultural and touristic significance of Kalna, highlighting the need to protect and promote the unique sweetmeat associated with the region.
Logistic Conclave 2023	 Context New initiatives in the transport sector aim to enhance cargo movement through waterways, as discussed by Saumitra Mohan, the principal secretary of the state's transport department, during the Logistics Conclave 2023. Key points Investment Expectation: Through public-private initiatives, an anticipated investment of Rs 5000 crore in the next three years is expected for the development of waterways and surface transport. Utilization of World Bank Fund: A World Bank fund is being utilized to establish jetties along the Ganga, from Nurpur in South 24-Parganas to Tribein in Hooghly. Jetties for RORO Services: The constructed jetties will facilitate the proposed Roll-On-Roll-Off



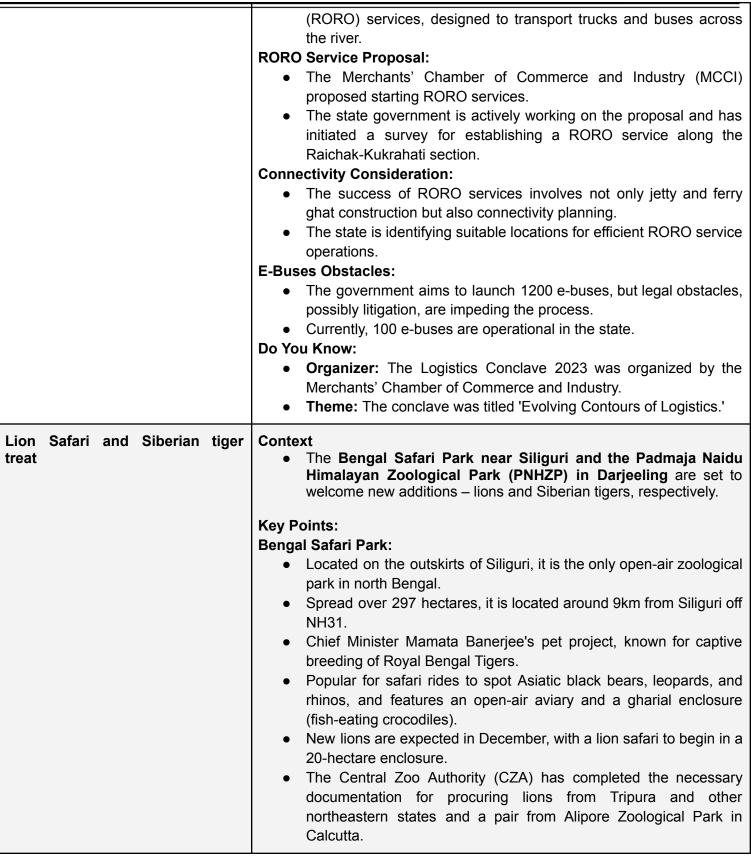








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	 Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park (PNHZP): Located in Darjeeling, recognized by the CZA as the best zoo in the country in 2022 among 130+ zoological parks in India. Established on August 14, 1958, it gained international recognition for conservation and captive breeding programs of red pandas, snow leopards, and other endangered Himalayan species. Expecting a pair of Siberian tigers from Paphos Zoological Park in Cyprus next month under an animal-exchange program. The tigers will be exchanged for a pair of Himalayan red pandas. Currently houses one Siberian tiger and 25 red pandas. Do You Know: The Bengal Safari Park is a major crowd-puller known for contributing to the captive breeding of Royal Bengal Tigers. The PNHZP in Darjeeling has received acclaim for its conservation and breeding programs for red pandas, snow leopards, and other endangered Himalayan species.
Panel to survey the use of water bodies	 The Bengal cabinet has decided to address the status of water bodies on vest land. The primary focus is on creating a committee to survey and formulate a policy for monetization. Many water bodies are currently under private control or small groups without payment of user fees, with fishing being a common activity.

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