




28 March 2024

### National and International News

<h4>Great Indian Bustard</h4>  <p>The GIB is among the heaviest birds that can fly</p> <p><b>THE GREAT INDIAN BUSTARD</b> GIB has been put in the Red List of the International Union for Conservation of Nature</p> <p><b>DID YOU KNOW?</b> The Great Indian Bustard was proposed as a candidate for the National Bird of India and was under consideration.</p> <p>The bird is hunted for its meat in Pakistan</p> <p><b>PAKISTAN</b></p> <p>It migrates from Rajasthan to Pakistan</p> <p><b>THREATS TO THE BIRD</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual and perennial non-timber crops</li> <li>Renewable energy</li> <li>Transportation and power lines</li> <li>Human intrusions and disturbance</li> <li>Invasive and other problematic species, genes &amp; diseases</li> </ul> <p><b>2011</b> The year the species was enlisted in the critically endangered category</p> <p><b>150</b> The approx. population of the species in 2018</p> <p><b>Height</b> 3.3ft tall</p> <p><b>Weight</b> 18 kg</p> <p><b>THE GIB IS RESTRICTED TO POCKETS IN</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Andhra Pradesh</li> <li>2. Gujarat</li> <li>3. Karnataka</li> <li>4. Maharashtra</li> <li>5. Madhya Pradesh</li> <li>6. Rajasthan</li> </ol>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <b>Supreme Court</b> has recently appointed a <b>seven-member committee</b> to address the challenge of balancing conservation efforts for the <b>Great Indian Bustard (GIB)</b> with the promotion of renewable energy in the same regions.</li> </ul> <p><b>About:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <b>Great Indian Bustard (Ardeotis nigriceps)</b>, also known as the Indian bustard, is a large bird found in the Indian subcontinent.</li> <li>It has a <b>horizontal body and long bare legs, resembling an ostrich.</b></li> <li>These birds are often found in the same habitat as blackbuck and are protected under the <b>Wildlife Protection Act of 1972 in India.</b></li> <li>Formerly widespread in India and Pakistan, the Great Indian Bustard is now critically endangered, listed as such on the <b>IUCN Red List since 2011.</b></li> <li>The population has drastically declined, with possibly fewer than <b>250 individuals remaining as of 2008.</b></li> <li>The main threats to the species are hunting and habitat loss.</li> <li>Historically, they were hunted for meat and sport, and poaching remains a concern.</li> <li>Increased agriculture due to irrigation projects like the Indira Gandhi Canal has also led to habitat loss.</li> </ul> <p><b>Efforts of Conservation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To address these challenges, the state of Rajasthan launched "<b>Project Great Indian Bustard</b>" on <b>World Environment Day in 2013.</b></li> <li>The project aims to protect and manage bustard breeding grounds within protected areas and outside by fencing them off and providing secure breeding enclosures.</li> </ul>
<h4>Ramakrishna Mission</h4>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Swami Smarananda Maharaj</b>, the president of Ramakrishna Math and Ramakrishna Mission, passed away in Kolkata.</li> </ul> <p><b>About:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <b>Ramakrishna Mission, established in 1897 by Swami Vivekananda</b>, is a philanthropic organization</li> </ul>



rooted in the principles of karma yoga, **emphasizing selfless service to God.**

- Its multifaceted work includes healthcare, disaster relief, rural management, tribal welfare, education, and cultural activities.
- Additionally, the **mission provides religious and spiritual teachings and publishes numerous important Hindu texts.**
- The organization primarily promotes Advaita Vedanta and advocates four yogic ideals: **Jnana, Bhakti, Karma, and Raja yoga.**
- The Ramakrishna Movement, also known as the Vedanta Movement, was initiated by Swami Vivekananda to disseminate the message of Vedanta and uplift the underprivileged. Its motto is **"for one's own liberation and for the good of the world."**

**Brucethoa ISRO**



**Context:**

Researchers have recently identified a **new species of deep-sea isopod off the Kollam coast in Kerala, naming it Brucethoa ISRO** in honor of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).


**Key points:**

- This tiny crustacean, part of the Brucethoa genus, was found living as a parasite on the Spinyjaw greeneye fish.
- **It is the second species from this genus to be discovered in India.**

**Isopods:**

- **Isopods, which belong to the order "Isopoda,"** are invertebrates within the larger group of crustaceans, which includes crabs and shrimp.
- They are incredibly diverse, with **approximately 10,000 known species found in various habitats worldwide,** ranging from mountains and deserts to the deep sea.
- Despite their diversity, **isopods share common features.**
- They all possess **two pairs of antennae, compound eyes, and four sets of jaws.**
- Their bodies consist of **seven segments, each with its own pair of walking legs.**
- Additionally, isopods have a short abdominal section composed of six segments, known as **"pleons," with one or more segments fused into a tail section.**
- About half of all isopod species live in the ocean,



	<p>while others inhabit coastal and shelf waters, either moving along the seafloor or residing in plants.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• While most isopods are <b>free-living</b>, some <b>marine species are parasitic</b>, living on other animals.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Philippines</b></p>  <p>© Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.</p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• India has <b>voiced support for the sovereignty of the Philippines</b>, a move that has drawn a reaction from China.</li> </ul> <p><b>About:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Philippines, <b>officially known as the Republic of the Philippines</b>, is an <b>archipelagic nation in Southeast Asia</b>, comprising 7,641 islands with a total land area of 300,000 square kilometers.</li> <li>• The country is divided into <b>three main geographical regions from north to south: Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao</b>.</li> <li>• With a diverse population, it is the world's twelfth-most-populous country.</li> <li>• Manila serves as the capital, while Quezon City is its most populous city.</li> </ul> <p><b>Border Countries:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geographically, the Philippines is <b>bordered by the South China Sea to the west</b>, the <b>Philippine Sea to the east</b>, and the <b>Celebes Sea to the south</b>.</li> <li>• It shares maritime borders with <b>Taiwan to the north</b>, <b>Japan to the northeast</b>, <b>Palau to the east and southeast</b>, <b>Indonesia to the south</b>, <b>Malaysia to the southwest</b>, <b>Vietnam to the west</b>, and <b>China to the northwest</b>.</li> <li>• Due to its location as an island nation on the Pacific Ring of Fire and its proximity to the equator, the <b>Philippines is prone to earthquakes and typhoons</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economically, the <b>Philippines has a mixed economic system that combines private freedom with centralized economic planning and government regulation</b>.</li> <li>• The country is a member of the <b>Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)</b> and the <b>Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)</b>.</li> <li>• The Philippines has experienced significant economic growth in recent decades, with an average annual growth rate of approximately <b>6% since 2010</b>.</li> <li>• In 2023, the Philippine economy was estimated to be</li> </ul>

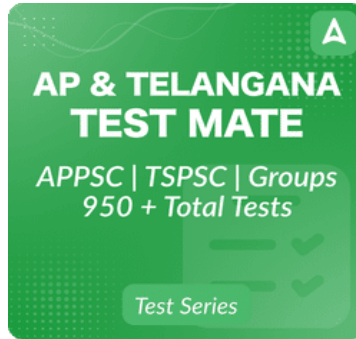


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## Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

	<p>\$435.67 billion, with a per capita income of \$12,127 in 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The dispute between <b>China and the Philippines</b> centers on China's claim to the Spratly Islands, which it asserts dates back centuries.</li> <li>• China contends that almost the entire South China Sea, including the Spratlys and other island groups, falls within its sphere of influence, a claim strongly disputed by the Philippines and Vietnam, among others.</li> </ul>
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