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## Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

### 16 July 2024

### **National and International News**

SIM Swapping Scam	<ul> <li>Why in the news?</li> <li>Google Fi Wireless has introduced a new security feature called 'Number Lock.'</li> <li>This feature allows users to prevent SIM swapping, a growing cybersecurity threat, by taking control of their security.</li> <li>About SIM Swapping Scam:         <ul> <li>A SIM swap scam occurs when a malicious actor convinces a mobile carrier to transfer a victim's phone number to a new SIM card in the actor's possession.</li> <li>This grants the actor access to the victim's calls, texts, two-factor authentication codes, and potentially financial accounts linked to the number.</li> <li>Modus Operandi:</li></ul></li></ul>
	the mobile operator's retail outlet, posing as the victim with forged ID proof.  They report a fake theft of the victim's SIM card and/or mobile phone.  Obtaining Duplicate SIM:  By reporting the theft, fraudsters acquire a duplicate SIM.  Notably, they can obtain a duplicate SIM even if the original is still functional.  No Direct Communication with Victims:  Unlike other scams, the SIM swap scam doesn't require direct communication with victims.
	<ul> <li>Fraudsters may give missed calls to their victims, causing them to leave their phones and ignore the lost network connectivity.</li> <li>Control Over SIM:         <ul> <li>Once the SIM is swapped, the fraudster gains control over the victim's SIM.</li> <li>All calls and messages are directed to the fraudster's SIM.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Access to Sensitive Information: With control of the SIM, fraudsters can obtain passwords and OTPs, allowing them to access the victim's bank accounts and other sensitive information.</li> </ul>
Manjeera Wildlife Sanctuary	Why in the news?  ● The Manjeera Wildlife Sanctuary in Telangana is being



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	studied to potentially become the state's first Ramsar site.
	About Manjeera Wildlife Sanctuary:  Location: Medak district, Telangana. Original Purpose: Established as a crocodile sanctuary. Biodiversity:  Bird Species: Over 70 species, including waterbirds. Vulnerable Species: Home to the mugger crocodile. Geographical Features: River: Follows the course of river Manjeera, a tributary of Godavari. Reservoir: Manjeera reservoir, man-made, supports irrigation and provides drinking water to Hyderabad and Secunderabad. Islands: Contains nine small islands with extensive marshy fringes for nesting waterbirds and thick tree cover. Vegetation: Type: Dry Savannah. Flora: Includes Typha, Babool, Prosopis, Ipomoea, Acacia, Vallisneria, Eichhornia, and Reeds. Aquatic Vegetation: Supports both submergent and emergent types. Fauna: Reptiles: Mugger crocodile and freshwater turtles. Aquatic Life: Prawns, molluscs, and fishes like catla, rohu, murrel, eel, karugu, and chidwa. Mammals: Indian hare, wild boar, mongoose, and jackal.
e-FAST India initiative	<ul> <li>Why in the news? <ul> <li>NITI Aayog has recently launched the 'NITI GearShift Challenge' as part of the e-FAST India initiative.</li> </ul> </li> <li>About e-FAST India initiative: <ul> <li>Objective: To decarbonize road-based freight transportation in India to meet the 2070 net zero commitments.</li> <li>Launch Date: September 2022.</li> <li>Goal: Transition towards cleaner and greener freight transportation.</li> <li>Platform Functions: <ul> <li>Facilitates national and international collaborations.</li> <li>Supports ideation and development of scalable pilot programs.</li> <li>Explores technology integration and associated research.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Stakeholders: Includes government, Original Equipment Manufacturers, Logistics Service Providers, Shippers, and industry experts.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>





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National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI)	Why in the news?  • Scientists from the National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI) have discovered new evidence highlighting the ancient connection between the Indian subcontinent and Antarctica.
	About NGRI:  Organization: National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI), a constituent research laboratory of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).  Established: 1961. Location: Hyderabad, Telangana.  Mission: Conduct research in multidisciplinary areas of Earth's complex structure and processes. Focus on Earth's interlinked subsystems.  Mandate: Conduct public-good science. Enable informed decision-making for government agencies, public, and private sector stakeholders. Promote sustainable use of geo-resources. Improve preparedness and resilience to natural hazards. Research Themes: Geodynamics Earthquake Hazards Natural Resources.
NITI GearShift Challenge	Why in the news?  • NITI Aayog has recently launched the 'NITI GearShift Challenge' as part of the e-FAST India initiative.
	About NITI GearShift Challenge:  Launched by NITI in collaboration with:  IIM Bangalore Smart Freight Centre India CALSTART/Drive to Zero WRI India Pioneering hackathon aimed at fostering innovative business models for zero-emission trucks (ZETs) in India. Addresses pressing economic and environmental challenges. NITI GearShift Challenge invites: Students Transport service practitioners Academics Researchers Focus on developing business models for: Financial challenges Technical challenges







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Operational challenges



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