



20 February 2025

Andhra Pradesh State Regional News

<p>National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF)</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Centre has sanctioned ₹608 crore in relief to Andhra Pradesh under the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF). <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is defined in Section 46 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005. It is a fund managed by the Central Government to meet the expenses for emergency response, relief, and rehabilitation due to any threatening disaster situation or disaster. NDRF is constituted to supplement the funds of the State Disaster Response Funds (SDRF) in case of a disaster of severe nature, provided adequate funds are not available in SDRF.
<p>ITCX 2025</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A key outcome of the three-day International Temples Convention and Expo (ITCX-2025) in Tirupati was the proposal to bring one lakh temples worldwide under a single umbrella. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ITCX 2025 brings temple leaders from around the world together to share knowledge on modern temple management while preserving spiritual traditions. The event focuses on innovative solutions and sustainable practices to help temples thrive in the future. With sessions on digital infrastructure, finance management, and eco-friendly practices, the convention offers temples a roadmap to stay relevant and efficient in the modern world while upholding their cultural essence.
<p>Maha Shivaratri Brahmotsavam</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Maha Shivaratri Brahmotsavams have begun at the Srisailam temple. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Maha Shivaratri Brahmotsavam is an 11-day festival that takes place at the Srisailam temple in Nandyal district of Andhra Pradesh. It is celebrated in honor of the Hindu god Shiva. The festival is celebrated in the month of Phalgun (or sometimes Magha) according to the Hindu lunar calendar. <p>About Maha Shivaratri:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maha Shivaratri is a Hindu festival celebrated annually in honour



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		<p>of the deity Shiva, between February and March.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • According to the Hindu calendar, the festival is observed on the fourteenth day of the first half (night starts with darkness - waning) of the lunar month of Phalguna. • The festival commemorates the wedding of Shiva and Parvati, and the occasion that Shiva performs his divine dance, called the Tandava.
Coringa Sanctuary	Wildlife	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officials and stakeholders are discussing the ESZ management plan for Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary. • The Centre for Environment and Development-Kerala has been tasked with preparing a plan to enhance the management of the mangrove ecosystem. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is part of the Godavari estuary, where the Coringa river confluences into the Bay of Bengal in the Kakinada district of Andhra Pradesh. • Vegetation: It has extensive mangrove and dry deciduous tropical forests. It is the second-largest stretch of mangrove forests in India. • The sea coast of the Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary is a breeding ground for Olive ridley turtles. <p>What are Eco-Sensitive Zones (ESZ)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per the National Wildlife Action Plan (2002-2016), issued by the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, land within 10 km of the boundaries of national parks and wildlife sanctuaries is to be notified as eco-fragile zones or Eco-Sensitive Zones (ESZ). • While the 10-km rule is implemented as a general principle, the extent of its application can vary. • Areas beyond 10-km can also be notified by the Union government as ESZs, if they hold larger ecologically important "sensitive corridors".
Species in news: Olive Ridley Turtles		<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Although there were mass strandings of Olive Ridley turtles along the Andhra Pradesh coast in January, nesting activity has remained consistent in February, with turtles continuing to arrive on the shores to lay their eggs. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They are the smallest and most abundant of all sea turtles found in the world. • Scientific Name: Lepidochelys olivacea • They are best known for their unique mass nesting, called Arribada, where thousands of females come together on the same beach to lay eggs.

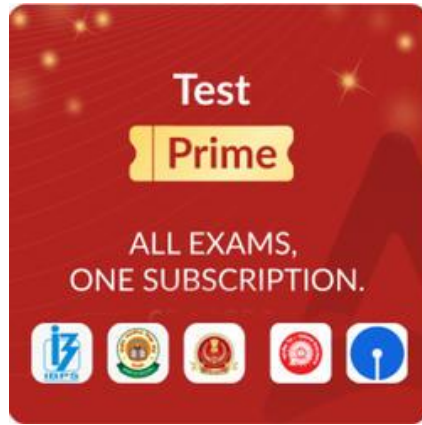


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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Distribution: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ They are mainly found in the warm waters of the Pacific, Atlantic, and Indian oceans. ○ Odisha's Gahirmatha Marine Sanctuary is known as the world's largest rookery (a colony of breeding animals) of sea turtles. ● Conservation Status: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ IUCN Red List: Vulnerable ○ Wildlife Protection Act, 1972: Schedule 1 ○ CITES: Appendix I
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