



Daily Current Affairs(2/1/2019)

Prelims Tidbits

General Studies 3(Environment)

1. Cinereous vulture seen in Jharkhand

Cinereous vulture:

- Found in the mounteneous regions of Eurasia
- Comes to North India during its migration
- IUCN status-Near threatened

General Studies-3(Science & tech)

2. Ganga water qualities has improved

- Measurement based on decreased levels of Biological Oxygen demand(BOD)

Biological Oxygen Demand:

- It denotes the amount of dissolved oxygen used by Microorganisms for decomposititon of matter.
- Greater the BOD--→ Lesser the level of biodiversity Under water.

Chemical Oxygen Demand:

- It measures the amount of Oxygen that is needed for Chemical reactions in a solution
- Unlike BOD, it helps in the measurement of all oxidized matter be it biodegradable as well as non bio degradable

General Studies 1 and 3

3. Panel flags neglect of Western Ghats

Eco Sensitive Zones:

- Areas where no or regulated level of development takes place
- It is notified by the Ministry of Environment,Forest and Climate change
- It is indirectly mentioned in the Environmental Protection act,1986.
- It exists around National parks, wildlife sanctuaries and other protected areas.
- Certain activities are completely banned in ESZ

General studies -2(statutory bodies)

Other vulture species found in India:

a)Himalayan Grifon

-Found along the himalayayas
-IUCN status- Near threatened
-The anti inflammatory cattle medicine **diclofenac** is causing deaths of these vulture

b)White rumped vulture

-All parts of India, South eastAsia
-IUCN- Critically endangered
-Many deaths due to diclofenac poisoning.

c)Long billed vulture

-India,Nepal,Pakistan
-IUCN-Critically endangered



4. NHRC seek report on student suicides in Navodaya Vidyalayas

NHRC:

- It is a statutory body
- It consists of a chairperson + 5 members
- The chairman is a retired Chief justice of India.
- Other members:
 - Sitting or retired Supreme court judge
 - Sitting or retired High court chief justice.
 - Two members who are expert in the field of human rights
- The ex-officio members include the Chairmen of National Commission for Scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, women and minorities
- Selection committee for selecting the members:
 - Prime Minister
 - Leader of Opposition of Lok sabha
 - Leader of opposition of Rajya Sabha
 - Home minister
 - Speaker of Lok Sabha
 - Deputy chairman of Rajya Sabha
- NHRC only has recommendatory powers
- It can take suo motu cases

SHRC:

- Statutory bodies
- Not mandatory for all states to setup SHRC's
- Chairman and two members
- Chairman should be a retired chief justice of high court.
- It can inquire only in violations of human rights related to the state list.

General Studies-1(Modern Indian History)

5. 201st anniversary of the battle of Bhima Koregaon celebrated

Battle of Bhima-Koregaon:

- It is part of the 3rd Anglo-Maratha war.
- The forces of the East India Company defeated Peshwa Baji Rao II
- Soldiers from the Mahar community, an untouchable community fought from the side of British.
- The present day dalits celebrate the victory in the war as the victory of lower castes over the upper castes(marathas)

General Studies-2(International institutions)

6. USA & Israel come out of UNESCO

- The move due to the anti-Israel bias shown by UNESCO
- Israel was miffed for including Palestine as a member country in UNESCO.



UNESCO:

- It is a specialized agency of the United Nations
- Headquarters: Paris
- Objective: To promote peace through international collaboration in education, scientific and cultural reforms
- The world Heritage Sites programme is administered by the UNESCO
- World Heritage Sites
 - It is selected by the World Heritage Committee consisting of 21 states
 - The sites are selected on the basis of natural or cultural criterias.
 - India has 37 sites, majority of which are cultural sites
 - Kangchenzonga national park is the first mixed site from India

7. RBI releases the Financial stability report

Other reports released by RBI:

- Interest Subvention Report

UPSC(Mains) issues for analysis

General Studies-3(Indian economy)

1. Time to keep trojan horses out of India's retail sector(Livemint)

Recent regulations concerning FDI in e-commerce sector:

- It bars e commerce companies from following **the inventory model of e commerce.**
- Non discriminatory access to all vendors by the sellers
- Restrictions on the promotion of exclusive offers and deals by the e-commerce companies

Background of the issue:

- E-commerce relates to the online selling and buying of goods
- Examples- Amazon, flipkart, Make my trip and Indiamart
- Government has permitted 100% FDI in e-commerce
- Many **brick and mortar companies** complain the predatory pricing followed by e-commerce companies like Amazon, flipkart.

Positive effects from such a move:

- Fair competition between e commerce companies and brick and mortar companies.
- Protection to local e-commerce companies from the big commerce companies



- Checks and balances on e-commerce sector can bring more transparency and accountability from the sector.
- It may lead to a decrease in the growing consumerist culture.

Negative effects from such a move:

- Government's **Ease of doing business** affected. There is a possibility of low investments in the e-commerce sector.
- It will lead to the decrease in the growth of the sector due to customers not buying on account of the lack of exclusive offers and deals.
- Inconsistency from India as it bats for protectionism internationally, but, bring such protectionist changes inside India.

Way forward:

- Need for a national level e-commerce policy.
- Greater consultation between various stakeholders
- Need for an effective regulation in e-commerce sector.

Inventory model of e-commerce:

- A model where the e-commerce company starts selling its own goods to the consumers directly.

Brick and mortar companies:

- It refers to the physical presence of an organization or companies.