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RAPID REVISION SERIES (RRS)

**500 HIGH PROBABLE
TOPICS FOR UPSC
PRELIMS 2020**

TOPIC 476-490



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Session 29

**Rapid Revision Series
of
500 HIGH PROBABLE TOPICS
for
PRELIMS 2020**



TOPICS TO REVISE

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- 477. Festivals in news
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Topic 476: Guru Padmasambhava

Key points:

Odisha unveiled a 19-foot-high statue of Guru Padmasambhava, the founder of Tibetan Buddhism

1. Padmasambhava ("Lotus-Born") --> also known as Guru Rinpoche
2. He was an 8th-century Buddhist master from the Indian subcontinent
3. He helped construction of the first Buddhist monastery in Tibet
4. He is widely venerated as a "second Buddha" by adherents of Tibetan Buddhism in Tibet, Nepal, Bhutan, the Himalayan states of India, and elsewhere
5. Padmasambhava introduced the people of Tibet to the practice of Tantric Buddhism. He is regarded as the founder of the Nyingma tradition.





Topic 477: Festivals in news

Name	Description
Ambubachi Mela	<p>Festival to mark the menstrual period of the goddess (Kamakhya temple, Assam)</p> <p>The attainment of womanhood of girls in Assam is celebrated with a ritual called 'Tuloni Biya', meaning small wedding</p>
Chaitra Jatra Festival	<p>Odisha's Tara Tarini hill shrine</p> <p>Tara Tarini hill shrine on banks of the Rushikulya river, is a major centre of Shakti worship in Odisha</p>
Nuakhai Juhar	<p>Celebrated in: Western Odisha and adjoining areas of Simdega in Jharkhand.</p> <p>It is an agricultural festival.</p> <p>It is observed to welcome the new rice of the season.</p>
Attukal Pongala	<p>Attukal Pongala is a ten-day- long festival held in Attukal Temple, Thiruvananthapuram(Kerala) is the largest congregation of women for a festival in the world.</p> <p>The festival commences with the musical rendering of the story of the Goddess (Kannaki Charitam) that invokes the victory of Good over Evil, by the slaying of Pandyan King.</p> <p>Also known as "the Sabarimala of Women"</p>



Topic 478: Baobab Tree

Key points:

1. It is known in India as kalpavriksha or a wish-fulfilling tree
2. Numbers --> not more than 200 are found --> mostly in isolated pockets of Gujarat, Maharashtra and a few in Jharkhand
3. Baobab has high medicinal and nutritional value, much like the Neem tree
4. Baobab is native to Africa and of the nine species of genus Adansonia in the world
5. People in many African countries use the Baobab to treat malaria and infertility
6. Baobab has high levels of vitamin C, potassium, phosphorous and antioxidants



Topic 479 and 480 : National Animal Disease Control Programme & National Artificial Insemination Programme; Swachhta Hi Seva Campaign

Key points:

1. NADCP --> to control and eradicate the Foot & Mouth Disease (FMD) and Brucellosis amongst the livestock
2. Aim:
 - 1) To vaccinate over 600 million cattle
 - 2) Mitigate the two diseases namely, the Foot & Mouth Disease & brucellosis
 - 3) Vaccinating 36 million female bovine calves annually
 - 4) To control the livestock diseases by 2025, and eradicate them by 2030
 - 5) Includes cattle, buffalo, sheep, goats, and pigs
3. The project will be fully funded by the Central Government.
4. About National Artificial Insemination Programme

Key points: Swachhta Hi Seva Campaign

1. Programme on reducing the usage of single-use plastics in the country
2. Swachhta Hi Seva initiative aims at accelerating the momentum of Swachch Bharat Mission and converting it into a Jan-Andolan for realizing the vision of a Clean India



Topic 481: Reserved Forests

Key points:

1. Indian Forest Act 1927 gave the Government and Forest Department the power to create Reserved Forests, and the right to use Reserved Forests for Government use alone
2. Therefore, 'Reserved Forest' --> terms under the Indian Forest Act, 1927
3. Land rights to forests declared to be Reserved forests are typically acquired and owned by the Government
4. Unlike national parks of India or wildlife sanctuaries of India, reserved forests and protected forests are declared by the respective state governments
5. Reserved forests differ in that rights to all activities like hunting, grazing, etc. in reserved forests are banned unless specific orders are issued otherwise



Topic 482: Wildlife habitats

Key points:

1. Section 2b of The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, defines 'Critical Wildlife Habitat'
2. 'Critical Wildlife Habitat' are such areas of National Parks and Sanctuaries that are required to be kept as inviolate for the purposes of wildlife conservation
3. It is determined and notified by the MoEFCC, after open process of consultation by an Expert Committee



Topic 483: Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ)

Key points:

1. ESZ are areas notified by the MoEFCC around Protected Areas, National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.
2. Activities conducted in ESZ are regulated under the Environment (Protection Act) of 1986
3. No polluting industry or mine is allowed to come up in such areas
4. ESZ zone, in general, could go up to 10 km around a protected area (even area beyond 10 km width can also be included)
5. Activities regulated under ESZ guidelines
6. The rules for the ESZ are based on the Environment Protection Act, 1986. However, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 does not mention the word “Eco-Sensitive Zones”.
7. Rule 5(1) of the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 --> empowers Central Govt.



Topic 484: Conservation Reserves

Key points:

1. These protected area categories were first introduced in the Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act of 2002
2. It can be declared by the State Governments in any area owned by the Government, particularly the areas adjacent to National Parks and Sanctuaries and those areas which link one Protected Area with another
3. Such a declaration should be made after having consultations with the local communities.
4. Conservation Reserves are declared for the purpose of protecting landscapes, seascapes, flora and fauna, and their habitat.
5. The rights of people living inside a Conservation Reserve are not affected.



Topic 485: Community Reserves

Key points:

1. These protected area categories were first introduced in the Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act of 2002
2. It can be declared by the State Government in any private or community land, not comprised within a National Park, Sanctuary or a Conservation Reserve
3. Community Reserves are declared for the purpose of protecting fauna, flora and traditional or cultural conservation values and practices
4. As in the case of a Conservation Reserve, the rights of people living inside a Community Reserve are not affected



Topic 486: Biosphere reserves

Key points:

1. It is an international designation by UNESCO for representative parts of natural and cultural landscapes extending over large areas of terrestrial or coastal/marine ecosystems or a combination thereof.
2. BRs are designated to deal with economic and social development and maintenance of associated cultural values
3. BRs are thus special environments for both people and nature (co-existence)
4. These areas are internationally recognized within the framework of UNESCO's Man and Biosphere (MAB) programme
5. The world's major ecosystem types and landscapes are represented in this network



Topic 487: Major Bird Sanctuaries in India

West Coast	Bird Sanctuaries	East Coast	Bird Sanctuaries
Gujarat	Nalsarovar Bird Sanctuary Porbandar Bird Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu	Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary Pulicat Lake Bird Sanctuary
West Coast	Bird Sanctuaries	East Coast	Bird Sanctuaries
	Khijadia Bird Sanctuary Thol Bird Sanctuary Jamnagar salt pans		Kunthakulam Bird Sanctuary Point Calimere
Maharashtra	Jayakwadi Bird Sanctuary Aurangabad Karnala Bird Sanctuary Raigad Nandurmadhmeshwar Bird Sanctuary, Nashik Vengurla Rocks	Andhra Pradesh	Kolleru Bird Sanctuary Pulicat lake bird sanctuary Manjira Bird Sanctuary Nelapattu Bird Sanctuary Rollapadu Bird Sanctuary (Great Indian Bustard)
Goa	Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary	Odisha	Chilika Lake Bird Sanctuary Nalabana Bird Sanctuary
Karnataka	Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary Ghataprabha Bird Sanctuary Gudavi Bird Sanctuary Mandagadde Bird Sanctuary	West Bengal	Rasikbil Bird Sanctuary Sajnakhali Bird Sanctuary Chintamani Kar Bird Sanctuary Kulik Bird Sanctuary (Raigunge)
Kerala	Kumarakom Bird Sanctuary Kadalundi Bird Sanctuary Thattekad Bird Sanctuary		



Topic 488: Protected Areas in news

Name	Description
Nandhaur Wildlife Sanctuary (Uttarakhand)	Tiger reserve status for Nandhaur sought
Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary	Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary shelters the highest density of Indian rhinos in the world
Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve (GNBR)	It comprises of the Galathea National Park and the Campbell Bay National Park
Mahadayi, Netravali and Cotigao sanctuaries and some part of Mahaveer National Park in Goa	Demand to notify WS as Tiger Reserves
Askot Wildlife Sanctuary in Uttarakhand	Butterfly named Himalayan tailless bushblue Climate change is prompting a habitat change in Himalayas



Topic 489: Pollutants/Areas to focus

1. Nitrogen --> International Nitrogen Management System and 2019 Colombo Declaration on Sustainable Nitrogen Management
2. Asbestos
3. Sulphur --> India largest SO₂ emitter
4. Uranium pollution
5. Lead --> Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint
6. Mercury --> COP 3- Minamata Convention on Mercury



Topic 490: IUCN Red List India (2019)

'Critically Endangered' Mammals

1. Himalayan Brown/Red Bear (*Ursus arctos isabellinus*)
2. Pygmy Hog (*Porcula salvania*)
3. Andaman White-toothed Shrew (*Crocidura andamanensis*)
4. Kondana Rat (*Millardia kondana*)
5. Large Rock Rat or Elvira Rat (*Cremnomys elvira*)
6. Namdapha Flying Squirrel (*Biswamoyopterus biswasi*)
7. Malabar Civet (*Viverra civettina*)
8. Sumatran Rhinoceros (*Dicerorhinus sumatrensis*)
9. Kashmir stag/hangul (*Cervus elaphus hanglu*)

'Endangered' Mammals

1. Tigers (including Bengal Tiger)
2. Asiatic Lion (Included Gir Lions)
3. Red Panda
4. Dhole/Asiatic wild dog or Indian wild dog (*Cuon alpinus*)
5. Eld's deer/thamin or brow-antlered deer (*Panolia eldii*)
6. Golden langur (*Trachypithecus geei*)
7. Himalayan / White-bellied Musk Deer
8. Hispid hare/ Assam rabbit (*Caprolagus hispidus*)
9. Hog deer
10. Lion-tailed macaque/ wanderoo (*Macaca silenus*)
11. Nilgiri tahr
12. Kharai Camel – India's swimming camels

'Endangered' Marine Mammals

- Freshwater (river) dolphin / South Asian River Dolphin



'Vulnerable' Mammals

1. Lion
2. Nilgiri langur/ Nilgiri leaf monkey (*Trachypithecus johnii*)
3. Great Indian one horn Rhinoceros
4. Gaur/Indian Bison
5. Four-horned antelope, Chousingha
6. Takin
7. Nilgiri marten
8. Barasingha or swamp deer (*Rucervus duvaucelii*)
9. Oriental small-clawed otter/ Asian small-clawed otter (*Aonyx cinerea*)
10. Clouded leopard (*Neofelis nebulosa*)
11. Asian black bear/ moon bear or white-chested bear (*Ursus thibetanus*)

'Vulnerable' Herbivorous Marine Mammals

- Dugong/Sea Cow

Topic 490: IUCN Red List India (2019)

'Near Threatened' Mammals

1. Wild ass/ khur (*Equus hemionus khur*)
2. Chiru/ Tibetan Antelope
3. Marbled cat (*Pardofelis marmorata*)
4. Himalayan tahr
5. Markhor (*Capra falconeri*)

Least concern

- Blackbuck (*Salman Khan*)

'Not Evaluated' Mammals

- Himalayan wolf