

## 11th December, 2021 Current Affairs

### 1. Haiderpur wetland in Uttar Pradesh has been recognized as Ramsar Site:

#### Key Highlights:

- The Haiderpur Wetland is going to adjoin the Madhya Ganga barrage, about 10 km from Bijnor in western Uttar Pradesh.
- Uttar Pradesh has now become the home to 9 Ramsar wetlands. The wetland has also been identified under Namami Gange, a significant flagship, as a model wetland along the Ganga.
- With the addition of this site now there are 47 such designated areas within the country.
- The Site supports quite 25,000 waterbirds.
- It is a breeding site for the near-threatened Indian grassbird.
- It provides refuge to the northern subspecies population of the vulnerable swamp deer during its seasonal flood-driven migration.
- The area also regularly supports quite 1% of the graylag and bar-headed goose population.



## 2. The National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (Amendment) Bill, 2021 has been passed:

### Key Highlights:

- With the passage of this Bill, six more institutes of pharmaceutical education and research, aside from an institute at Mohali, will be accorded the status of institute of national importance.
- These institutes will introduce undergraduate and diploma courses, and an advisory council will also be set.
- By the voice voting this Bill has been passed in Lok Sabha. In Lok Sabha, the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (Amendment) Bill, 2021, was introduced on March 15, 2021.
- The Bill seeks to amend the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research Act, 1998.
- This act established the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research in Punjab and declared it an establishment of National Importance.



### Related Provisions:

- This Bill declares more of six National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research because of the Institutions of National Importance.

- These institutes are situated in Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Hajipur, Raebareli Kolkata and Guwahati.
- It provides for a Council to coordinate activities among institutes to ensure the development of pharmaceutical education, research, and maintenance of standards.

### Functions of the Council:

1. It will advise on matters like course duration, and admission standards within the institutes.
2. It will formulate the policies for recruitment, fees and conditions of service.
3. It will examine and approve the development plans for the institutes.
4. It will examine annual budget estimates for institutes.

### Members of the Council:

- Chairperson: Minister responsible of Ministry or department of the central government, who has administrative control of pharmaceuticals (ex officio)
- Vice Chairperson: Minister of State of the Ministry or department of the central government, who has administrative control of the pharmaceuticals (ex officio)
- Chairperson of every Board of Governors (ex officio)
- Director of each institute (ex officio).

### 3. The NITI Aayog has planned to launch 1000 Atal Tinkering Laboratories:

#### Key Highlights:

- These Tinkering Laboratories will be launched in Jammu Kashmir.
- From 1000 Atal Tinkering Laboratories, 187 will be founded by the top of 2021-22.
- Out of 187 ATLs, 31 are being inaugurated across government schools of J&K, while 50 are going to be established at a few educational institutions like KVs, JNVs and private schools.
- The process of inaugurating the remaining 106 labs will be started soon.
- Apart from that, the department has also been asked to supply regular maintenance of infrastructure and tools of those centres in line with other government departments.



#### About Atal Tinkering Labs:

- ATL is a sub-mission under the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) of the Central Government in India.
- The initiative of AIM seeks to nurture an innovative mindset amongst high school students across India.
- It is a crucial government scheme dispensed under NITI Aayog.

- The endeavour also seeks to spice up mental evolution among children, where they're equipped with avenues to broaden their understanding of scientific ideas.

### Goals:

- AIM established ATL in schools with the goal of 'Cultivating a million children in India as Neoteric Innovators.
- The primary intention of fixing ATLs is to market creativity, interest and originality in youthful minds.
- ATL also aims to instil in children a strategy perspective, computational thought, adaptive understanding, physical computing, etc.

### About Atal Innovation Mission:

- Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) is the program of the central government to promote a civilisation of entrepreneurship and creation.
- AIM under NITI Aayog is expected as an umbrella innovation association that plays an instrument in aligning innovation policies between central, state and sectoral ministries.

#### 4. Recently a Royal Bengal tiger has been witnessed in at Buxa Tiger Reserve:

Recently almost after 20 years, a camera trap found at Buxa Tiger Reserve (BTR) in Alipurduar district of West Bengal that has captured sight of a Royal Bengal tiger, that the region.



#### Key Highlights:

- After confirming the Tiger sighting, the field director of the Buxa Reserve, Buddharaj Shewa has announced that 70 more trap cameras are prepared to line up, additionally to 150 already in situ.
- The sighting of the Bengal tiger is issue of concern because, for 23 years within the Buxa Reserve, no tiger has been captured. They photographed the last known tiger in 1998.

#### About Buxa Tiger Reserve:

- Buxa Tiger Reserve is located in northern West Bengal, which covers a neighbourhood of 760 km.
- It varies from 60 m in Gangetic Plains to 1,750 m adjoining the Himalayas within the north.
- The reserve is habitat to around 284 bird species. It's also a household to mammals like the Asian elephant, gaur, clouded leopard, Sambar deer, and Indian leopard.

- Buxa Tiger Reserve was founded as the 15th tiger reserve of India in 1983.
- Along the northern side of the reserve, the Sinchula hill range is found while it shares the eastern boundary with Assam state.
- National Highway No.31 C around runs across the reserve's southern boundary.

#### About the Royal Bengal tiger:

- The Royal Bengal tiger belongs to a distinct population of the tiger Tigris subspecies, born in Indian subcontinent.
- The tiger is endangered by hunting and part of its habitat.
- India's tiger population was 2,603–3,346 individuals in 2018. 300–500 tigers are found in Bangladesh, 220–274 in Nepal, and 103 in Bhutan. In the red list of IUCN, it's been recorded as an endangered category.

#### 5. Nita Ambani has been ranked second in the list of most powerful women in India by magazine Fortune India:

In a key development, Reliance Foundation Chairperson and Goodwill Ambassador Nita Ambani has been ranked second in the list of most powerful women in India by Fortune India, just after the Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman, who has been ranked first in this list.





Last year, during the nationwide lockdown, Nita Ambani was at the forefront to set up India's first dedicated 250-bed Covid-19 treatment facility in Mumbai in association with the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation. And later the capacity increased to over 2,000 beds with an uninterrupted oxygen supply. The treatment was totally free of cost. Nita Ambani's focus was on areas where non-governmental entities were unable to reach out. The Reliance foundation also launched a COVID-19 testing lab with a capacity of over 15,000 tests daily.

In an official press release, Nita Ambani had then said, "India is facing an unprecedented challenge due to the second wave of Covid. We are focused on doing as much as we can to enable India and Indians in our fight against Covid.

#### [About Reliance Industries:](#)

Reliance Industries is among the top-100 in 2020 Fortune Global 500.

Last year, the Oil-to-telecom conglomerate Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL)

helmed by the world's fourth-richest man, Mukesh Ambani, had secured the 96th rank in the 2020 Fortune Global 500 list released by Fortune magazine.

RIL, India's top company based on market capitalization, had jumped over 10 places to finally make it to the list of top-100 companies in the ranking that is considered an industry standard. Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries is the one and only Indian company to have secured a rank in the top 100 global companies in the list published every year by Fortune magazine which considers this yearly list as the "ultimate business scorecard". It has been 17 years now that RIL has been a part of the Fortune 500 yearly list.



6. Neeraj Chopra has become the brand ambassador for Disney BYJU's Early Learn app:

Recently, Olympic gold medalist Neeraj Chopra, represented by JSW Sports, has been announced as the brand ambassador for Disney BYJU's Early Learn app.



As part of this two-year commitment, the Tokyo Games javelin throw winner will urge students to learn in creative and interactive ways. He will also roll out the message of the importance of sports in their lives.

Intimating happiness over the association, Neeraj Chopra said, "As a sports person, there is nothing more encouraging than seeing children learn from an early age while getting the chance to instill the right values in them.

In sport or life, learning and training go hand-in-hand, and I hope I can work with these children to get them engaged and more involved with the learning process."

**About Byju's:** Byju's is an Indian multinational educational technology company, headquartered in Bangalore. It was founded in 2011 by Byju Raveendran and Divya Gokulnath.

## 7. India have won 41 medals at Asian Youth Para Games 2021:

At the 4th Asian Youth Para Games (AYPG), India as claimed 41 medals (12 Gold, 15 Silver, and 14 Bronze).

The Asia's biggest event was held at Riffa city in Bahrain.



The event is organized by the National Paralympic Committee (NPC) of Bahrain with the support of the local government. More than 700 athletes from around 30 countries participated in the event from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6th December 2021. The 5th edition of the Asian Youth Para Games 2025 will be hosted by Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

### About the Asian Youth Para Games 2021:

More than 700 athletes from around 30 countries had participated in the continental youth showpiece event that took place from December 2 to 6. The athletes competed across nine sports – Para athletics, Para badminton, boccia, goalball, Para powerlifting, Para swimming, Para table tennis, Para taekwondo, and wheelchair basketball.