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## Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

8 April 2024

### West Bengal News

#### Himalayan Griffon Vultures



##### Context:

The state Forest Department successfully released **five Himalayan Griffon Vultures** into the wild from the Vulture Conservation Breeding Centre at **Rajabhatkhawa in the Buxa Tiger Reserve (BTR)** in the Alipurduar district.

##### About:

- The **Himalayan Griffon Vultures** are primarily found along the Himalayas and the adjoining Tibetan Plateau.
- **Conservation Status:** Classified as a **Near Threatened species** by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).
- **Threats:** These vultures are at **risk from diclofenac toxicity, a drug present in the carcasses of domestic animals.**
- Despite this threat, their population has not exhibited a rapid decline seen in other **Gyps vulture populations across Asia.**

#### State to seek help of Dutch govt to boost its horticulture sector

##### Context:

- The Food Processing Industries and Horticulture (FPI&H) department in the state is seeking assistance from the **Dutch government to enhance its horticulture sector.**
- They plan to establish a **Centre of Excellence (CoE) for vegetable and fruit cultivation, with technical guidance from the Netherlands.**

##### Key points:

- A 30-acre plot in Pancha Block, approximately 42 kilometers from **Purulia town**, has been identified for the CoE.
- The DPR is expected to be completed by **April-May.**
- The **objective of the CoE is to establish a standard for agriculture in arid regions with limited rainfall and water scarcity.**
- The CoE will focus on teaching farmers water conservation techniques for agriculture.
- The initiative aims to address issues such as farmers producing their own saplings with unsatisfactory results and the use of inferior quality seeds.




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<p><b>DRDO Initiates Construction of New Test Centre</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In response to the saturation of the <b>Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Chandipur, Odisha</b>, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has commenced the <b>development of a new test center in Junput, West Bengal</b>.</li> <li>This initiative mirrors the infrastructure and purpose of the ITR in Chandipur.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Junput, much like <b>Chandipur</b>, is situated along the <b>Bay of Bengal</b>, approximately <b>70 kilometers</b> away.</li> <li>Recognizing the necessity for an additional testing facility, DRDO officials announced the initiation of the Junput project.</li> <li>Spanning across <b>8.73 acres of land</b>, the <b>Junput test center</b> has garnered approvals from both the <b>Central and West Bengal governments</b>, as well as the <b>Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change</b>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Eastern Railway's Creative Campaign: Leveraging Memes and Social Media for Passenger Awareness</b></p> 	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eastern Railway (ER) has adopted a creative approach to <b>raise awareness among passengers by utilizing memes and social media platforms</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One example of their innovative approach involved using characters from the 1969 Bengal comic strip "<b>Nonte Phonte</b>" by Narayan Debnath. In a meme shared by ER, the characters discuss the <b>Rail Madad Helpline number 139</b>, which passengers can use to report distressing situations during train journeys.</li> <li>By using <b>memes</b>, <b>ER aims to address this issue and ensure that passengers are aware of the services available to them</b>.</li> <li>Through these creative campaigns, ER is effectively leveraging memes and social media to educate passengers and enhance their overall experience with the railways.</li> </ul>
<p><b>World Health Day</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>World Health Day</b> is celebrated annually on <b>April 7th</b>.</li> <li>It was established by the <b>World Health Organization (WHO)</b> in <b>1948</b>.</li> </ul>



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### About:

- In 1948, the WHO held the **First World Health Assembly**.
- The Assembly decided to celebrate 7 April of each year, **with effect from 1950**, as World Health Day.

### Theme:

- The theme for World Health Day 2024 is **"My health, my right"**.
- This theme emphasizes the importance of ensuring everyone, everywhere has access to healthcare services, information, and education to live a healthy life.

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