



22 May 2024

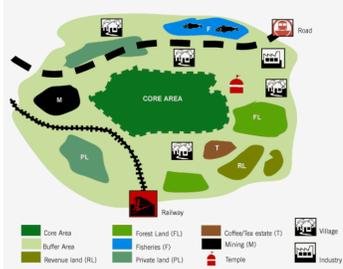
National & International News

<p><b>Copernicus Emergency Management Service (EMS) Programme</b></p>	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A helicopter carrying Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi crashed in East Azerbaijan province recently.</li><li>• A multi-agency effort is underway to locate the helicopter.</li><li>• The <b>European Union activated its Copernicus EMS rapid response mapping service.</b></li></ul> <p><b>About Copernicus Emergency Management Service (EMS) Programme:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Copernicus EMS is a <b>European Union program</b> providing <b>geospatial information</b> in support of <b>emergency response and disaster risk management.</b></li><li>• It is <b>part of the broader Copernicus Earth Observation program.</b></li><li>• <b>Main Services:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>Rapid Mapping:</b> Provides geospatial information for emergency response within hours or days of a disaster event.</li><li>○ <b>Risk &amp; Recovery Mapping:</b> Offers detailed maps and analysis for disaster preparedness, recovery, and risk reduction.</li><li>○ <b>Early Warning Systems:</b> Includes European and Global Flood Awareness Systems (EFAS and GloFAS), European Forest Fire Information System (EFFIS), and Drought Observatory (EDO).</li></ul></li></ul>
<p><b>R21/Matrix-M vaccine</b></p> 	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The <b>Serum Institute of India (SII)</b> has announced the <b>commencement of exports of the 'R21/Matrix-M' malaria vaccine to Africa</b>, contributing to the global fight against the disease.</li></ul> <p><b>About R21/Matrix-M:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A new <b>malaria vaccine</b> has been <b>approved for preventing malaria in children.</b></li><li>• It is the <b>second malaria vaccine recommended by the WHO</b>, following the <b>RTS, S/AS01 vaccine.</b></li><li>• Developed by the <b>Jenner Institute at Oxford University and the Serum Institute of India.</b></li><li>• Supported by the <b>European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP)</b>, the <b>Wellcome Trust</b>, and the <b>European Investment Bank (EIB).</b></li></ul>



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### Critical Tiger Habitat (CTH)



#### Why in news?

- The **Supreme Court** has ordered the **Rajasthan government** to shut down **68 mines** operating within a **1-kilometer radius** of the **critical tiger habitat (CTH)** in the **Sariska reserve**.

#### About Critical Tiger Habitat (CTH):

- Critical Tiger Habitat, also known as **Core Area**, is a **legally protected area** designated under the **Wildlife Protection Act of 1972** in India.
- It is **crucial for the survival and recovery of tiger populations**.
- **Purpose:** The **primary objective of CTH** is to ensure the **long-term conservation of tigers and their habitats** by maintaining an inviolate area where **human activities are restricted**.
- **Identification:** CTHs are **identified based on scientific criteria such as**
  - The presence of tigers,
  - Prey availability,
  - Habitat quality, and
  - Connectivity to other tiger habitats.
- **Management:** CTHs are **managed by the respective state forest departments** with support from the **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)** to **implement conservation measures and manage human-wildlife conflict**.
- **Relocation of Villages:** To create inviolate areas, villages within CTHs may be relocated. This is **done with the consent of the villagers and involves compensation packages** to ensure their livelihoods are not adversely affected.
- **Inviolate Areas:** These are areas within CTH where **no human activities, including resource extraction and tourism, are allowed** to ensure minimal disturbance to tigers and their prey.
- **Buffer Zones:** Surrounding the CTH, buffer zones are **established where limited human activities are permitted**. These areas act as a **transition zone between human settlements and core tiger habitats**.

### Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)

#### Why in news?

- **Airbus Helicopters** and the **Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)** have signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** to **provide financing solutions for the purchase of Airbus helicopters in India**.
- This **agreement aims to identify and support potential civil helicopter operators in India** who are interested in purchasing Airbus helicopters.

#### About SIDBI:

- **Established:** 2nd April **1990**, under an Act of the Indian Parliament
- **Purpose:** **Principal financial institution** for the promotion, financing, and development of the **Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprise (MSME) sector**



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Jurisdiction:</b> Ministry of Finance</li><li>● <b>Initial Incorporation:</b> A wholly owned subsidiary of the <b>Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI)</b></li><li>● <b>Current Ownership:</b> Shares held by the <b>Government of India (GoI)</b> and <b>22 other institutions/PSBs/insurance companies</b> owned or controlled by the Central Government</li><li>● <b>Headquarters:</b> Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh</li><li>● <b>Functions:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>Assists MSMEs in acquiring funds for growth</b>, marketing, development, and commercialization of technologies and innovative products</li><li>○ <b>Provides several schemes and offers financial services and products</b> to meet the individual requirements of various businesses</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>Bacterial Pathogens Priority List (BPPL)</b>	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● The <b>WHO's latest Bacterial Pathogens Priority List (BPPL)</b> highlights major global threats posed by <b>critical priority pathogens</b>.</li><li>● These <b>pathogens have a high burden, resist treatment, and spread resistance to other bacteria</b>.</li></ul> <p><b>Key points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● The list includes <b>gram-negative bacteria resistant to last-resort antibiotics</b>.</li><li>● It also <b>features Mycobacterium tuberculosis resistant to the antibiotic Rifampicin</b>.</li><li>● The list categorizes <b>15 families of antibiotic-resistant bacteria into three priority levels:</b> critical, high, and medium.</li></ul> <p><b>About BPPL:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Purpose:</b> The BPPL is designed to identify bacterial pathogens that pose the greatest threat to public health due to their resistance to antibiotics.</li><li>● <b>Origin:</b> Developed by the World Health Organization (<b>WHO</b>) in <b>2017</b>.</li><li>● <b>Criteria for Selection:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The level of resistance,</li><li>○ Mortality rates,</li><li>○ Prevalence in the community,</li><li>○ Healthcare burden, and</li><li>○ Potential for spreading resistance.</li></ul></li></ul>

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