




**04 Oct 2024**

**National and International News**

<p><b>Lake Prespa</b></p> 	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experts report that at least 430 hectares of the 450-hectare Little Prespa Lake in Albania have turned into swamps or dried up.</li> </ul> <p><b>About Lake Prespa:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One of the <b>oldest tectonic lakes in Europe.</b></li> <li>• <b>Highest tectonic lake on the Balkan Peninsula.</b></li> <li>• <b>Geological Location:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Lies at the <b>junction of three major geological masses:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Granite massif on the East.</li> <li>■ Karstic massif belonging to Galicica on the West.</li> <li>■ Suva Gora on the South.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Geological Significance:</b> Region has rocks from the oldest Paleozoic era to young Neogene sediments.</li> <li>• <b>Composition:</b> Made up of Great Prespa Lake (shared by Albania, Greece, and the Republic of Macedonia) and Small Prespa Lake.</li> <li>• <b>Territorial Distribution:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Majority of Little Prespa Lake (Small Lake Prespa) is in <b>Greek territory.</b></li> <li>○ Southern tip crosses into <b>Albania.</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Environmental Impact:</b> Rising temperatures, mild winters with little snowfall, and scarce precipitation have adversely affected the lake.</li> </ul>
<p><b>National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans Tracker</b></p>	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAPs) Tracker</b> has revealed that <b>only 10% of nations have met their biodiversity commitments</b> ahead of the upcoming <b>COP16</b> conference.</li> </ul> <p><b>About National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans Tracker:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tool Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Developed by the <b>World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF).</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Monitors the progress of countries in developing their NBSAPs.</li> <li>● <b>Alignment:</b> Ensures NBSAPs align with the goals of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF).</li> <li>● <b>Aim:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Makes biodiversity policies accessible to all stakeholders.</li> <li>○ Ensures transparency and accountability as countries prepare for COP16.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
SARTHIE 1.0	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Recently, the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment (DoSJE), Government of India, and the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) launched the SARTHIE 1.0.</li> </ul> <p><b>About SARTHIE 1.0:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Empowerment Initiative:</b> Scheduled Castes (SCs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs), Senior Citizens, Transgender Persons, Victims of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, persons engaged in Begging, Denotified and Nomadic Tribes, and more.</li> <li>● <b>Alignment with UN 2030 Agenda:</b> Focuses on eradicating poverty, reducing inequality, and promoting social protection policies for greater equality.</li> <li>● <b>Collaboration Goals:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Bridge the awareness gap.</li> <li>○ <b>Provide legal assistance</b> for effective implementation of social welfare programs.</li> <li>○ <b>Strengthen social justice</b> through synergy between the executive and judiciary.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Central government recently appointed new monetary policy committee members with immediate effect.</li> </ul> <p><b>About MPC:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Establishment:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Set up after a Memorandum of Understanding between the government and the RBI for a new inflation-targeting monetary policy framework.</li> <li>○ The RBI Act, 1934, amended by the Finance Act, 2016, provides a statutory and institutionalized framework for the MPC.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Constitution:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Under Section 45ZB of the amended RBI Act, 1934, the central government can constitute a <b>six-member MPC</b>.</li> <li>○ <b>Function:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Tasked with fixing the benchmark policy rate</b> (repo rate) to <b>contain inflation</b> within the specified target level.</li> <li>■ <b>Replaced the Technical Advisory Committee.</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Composition:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Six members:</b> RBI Governor (Chairperson), RBI Deputy Governor in charge of monetary policy, one official nominated by the RBI Board, and three members representing the Government of India.</li> <li>○ <b>External members hold office for four years.</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Meeting Quorum: Four members</b>, including at least the Governor or, in his absence, the Deputy Governor.</li> <li>● <b>Decision-Making:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Decisions based on majority vote</b>; in case of a tie, the <b>RBI Governor has the casting vote</b>.</li> <li>○ MPC decisions are <b>binding on the RBI</b>.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Assistance: RBI's Monetary Policy Department (MPD)</b> assists the MPC in formulating monetary policy.</li> </ul>
Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The <b>Prime Minister</b> launched the <b>Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan</b> on October 2, 2024, in Hazaribagh, Jharkhand.</li> </ul> <p><b>About Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Objective:</b> Foster <b>holistic development in tribal villages, transforming the socio-economic landscape.</b></li> <li>● <b>Coverage:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 63,843 villages</li> <li>○ Over 5 crore tribal people</li> <li>○ 549 districts</li> <li>○ 2,911 blocks</li> <li>○ All tribal majority villages and aspirational blocks in 30 States/UTs</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Focus Areas:</b> Saturation of critical gaps in social infrastructure, health, education, and livelihood.</li> </ul>



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## Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

- **Interventions:** 25 interventions implemented by 17-line ministries of the Government of India through convergence and outreach.
- **Inspiration:** Based on the success of **Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN)**, launched in November 2023.



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