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## **DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS 09-07-2024**

### **GS-1**

1. Sea Groynes
2. Kaveri River

### **GS-2**

3. EXERCISE MAITREE

### **GS-3**

4. Pearl spot
5. Mudumalai Tiger Reserve

## Sea Groynes

**Syllabus: GS-1; Geography-Oceanography**

### Context

*Seawalls and Groynes fail to protect Ernakulam's coastal villages from monsoon fury*

### Sea wall

- *A seawall is a structure made of concrete, masonry or sheet piles.*
- *It is built parallel to the shore at the transition between the beach and the mainland or dune, to protect the inland area against wave action and prevent coastal erosion.*



Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>Protects the base of cliffs, land and buildings against erosion.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>They can prevent coastal flooding in some areas.</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>Expensive to build and maintain.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Curved sea walls reflect the energy of the waves back to the sea.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>This means that the waves remain powerful.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Can also be unattractive.</i></li> </ul>

### Groynes

- ***A groyne is a long narrow structure built out into the sea from the beach to limit the movement and loss of beach material (sand and shingle).***
- *Groynes form a significant part of coastal protection around the coast.*
- *Groyne beaches protect around 50,000 properties that lie within 100 m of average high tides.*



Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Prevents longshore drift moving beach material along the coast.</li> <li>➤ Allows the build-up of a beach.</li> <li>➤ Beaches are a natural defence against erosion and an attraction for tourists.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ They can be unattractive.</li> <li>➤ Costly to build and maintain.</li> </ul>

## **Kaveri River**

**Syllabus: GS-1; Geography- Rivers of India**

### **Context**

- The Karnataka state government has established a nine-member committee to investigate the contamination of the Kaveri River and propose solutions to address the issue.

### **Origin**

- The Kaveri River originates from **Talakaveri in the Western Ghats in Karnataka, India**. It is a perennial river.

### **Course**

- It flows through the states of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, covering a total distance of about 800 kilometers (500 miles).

## Importance

- The Kaveri River is considered sacred by Hindus and is worshiped as a goddess in many places.
- It plays a crucial role in the irrigation of agricultural lands in both Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.
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## Tributaries

- The major tributaries of the Kaveri include the Kabini River, Hemavati River, Arkavati River, and Bhavani River.

## Conflict

- The sharing of Kaveri River water between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu has been a source of longstanding dispute and has led to several legal and political conflicts over water rights.

## Ecological Importance

- The river supports a diverse ecosystem and is home to various species of flora and fauna.

## Historical Significance

- Many historical towns and cities, such as Srirangapatna and Srirangam, are situated along the banks of the Kaveri River, highlighting its cultural and historical significance.

## **EXERCISE MAITREE**

### **Syllabus: GS-2; International Relations**

#### **Context**

- *Joint Military Exercise MAITREE 2024 Between Indian Army & Royal Thailand Army Underway In Thailand*

#### **More about the news**

- *The joint military exercise MAITREE 2024, between the Indian Army and the Royal Thailand Army, is currently underway in Tak Province, Thailand.*
- *This exercise marks a significant milestone in fostering **military cooperation and enhancing the operational capabilities** of the two nations under the United Nations charter.*
- *The troops from both contingents have been actively engaged in rigorous training sessions, focusing on counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism operations in jungle and urban environments.*
- *The exercise emphasizes the exchange of best practices, with soldiers from India and Thailand sharing and imbibing each other's expertise.*
- *Physical fitness and combat readiness are at the forefront of the training agenda, with joint activities including martial arts, games, and specialized physical training sessions.*
- *The Indian Army contingent conducted Yoga sessions for their Thai counterparts, highlighting cultural exchange alongside military cooperation.*
- *Various joint training activities conducted so far include weapon training, rappelling, jungle survival techniques, navigation training, communication exercises, combat first aid, and casualty evacuation drills.*
- *These activities are designed to enhance interoperability and mutual understanding between the two armies.*
- *The joint exercise is witnessing enthusiastic participation and growing camaraderie between the Indian and Thai troops.*
- *This exercise not only strengthens the operational capabilities of troops from both armies but also deepens the longstanding friendship between the two armed forces.*

#### **Significance**

- *Exercise MAITREE 2024 aimed at further enhancing the operational synergy between the Indian Army and the Royal Thailand Army.*

- *The exercise underscores the commitment of both nations to collaborate closely in addressing regional security challenges and promoting peace.*

## **Pearl spot**

**Syllabus: GS-3; Environment and Ecology**

### **Context**

- *Kufos to launch genome editing mission to boost pearl spot production*



### **About**

- *The pearl spot, known scientifically as **Etroplus suratensis**, is a freshwater fish species native to the rivers and lakes of South Asia, particularly found in **India, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh**.*

### **Appearance**

- *The pearl spot has a distinctive appearance with a moderately deep, laterally compressed body.*
- *It typically grows to a length of about 15-20 centimeters (6-8 inches). The body coloration varies from silver to golden-yellow, and it has prominent black spots on the sides.*

### **Habitat**

- Pearl spots are primarily found in **freshwater habitats** such as rivers, lakes, and ponds.
- They are known to inhabit both still and flowing waters, often near submerged vegetation or rocky areas.

### Diet

- These fish are **omnivorous**, feeding on a variety of food items including algae, aquatic plants, small crustaceans, and insects.

### Cultural and Culinary Importance

- Pearl spots are highly esteemed as a food fish in South Asia, particularly in Kerala (India) where they are known as "**karimeen**."
- They are considered a delicacy and are prepared in various traditional dishes, often cooked with spices and coconut.

### Breeding

- Pearl spots are capable of breeding both in freshwater and slightly brackish waters.
- During breeding season, they lay their eggs in shallow waters among plants, and the juveniles feed on plankton.

### Conservation Status

- The pearl spot is not currently listed as **endangered**, but like many freshwater fish species, it faces threats from habitat loss, pollution, and overfishing in some areas.

### Aquaculture

- Due to its popularity as a food fish, pearl spots are also cultured in aquaculture ponds in South Asia to meet the demand.

## Mudumalai Tiger Reserve

### Syllabus: GS-3; Biodiversity

#### Context

- 'Digital beehives' tried as acoustic deterrent to elephants in Mudumalai Tiger Reserve.



### Digital beehives'

- Known as 'Elrepel box', the technology uses the **sound of bees** to create a "digital beehive," that its pioneers hope will be **able to repel elephants**, without the need for physical barriers to protect private property.
- Though bee boxes are known to work very effectively in **discouraging elephants from entering an area**, there are many variables attached to such systems, such as bees colonising the boxes not being preyed on, and even that they have a certain level of aggression towards intruding elephants at any particular time for it to work

### About

- It is situated in the **Nilgiri Hills**, in the **Western Ghats range**, bordering **Karnataka and Kerala states**.
- The reserve is part of the larger **Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve**.

### Establishment

- Mudumalai Tiger Reserve was established in 1940 and was declared a tiger reserve in 2007 under the Project Tiger initiative.

### Flora and Fauna

- The reserve is known for its rich biodiversity.

- *It is home to a wide variety of flora and fauna including elephants, tigers, leopards, Indian bison (gaur), deer species like sambar and spotted deer, wild boar, and many species of birds and reptiles.*

### **Tiger Population**

- *Mudumalai is one of the important tiger reserves in India with a significant population of Bengal tigers.*

### **Habitats**

- *The terrain of Mudumalai Tiger Reserve includes moist deciduous forests, dry deciduous forests, and tropical evergreen forests, providing diverse habitats for wildlife.*

### **Conservation Efforts**

- *The reserve is actively involved in conservation efforts for tigers and other endangered species, as well as in promoting eco-tourism as a sustainable means of generating revenue and raising awareness.*