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## **DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS 29-10-2024**

### **GS-1**

1. Doli Yatra

### **GS-3**

2. Livestock Census

3. Emissions Gap Report, 2024

4. Great Indian Bustard

5. Hwange National Park

## **Doli Yatra**

**Syllabus: GS-1; Indian Society- Cultural Practices.**

### **Context**

- Tribal people of Jajulabandha, Pithrigedda, Neelabandha, Dayarthi and Madrabu staged a mock 'doli yatra', demanding construction of roads and provision of electricity in the tribal villages in ASR and Anakapalli districts, outside the Zilla Parishad building, where a ZP general body meeting was held.



### **About**

- Doli Yatra refers to a traditional procession that celebrates significant cultural or religious events in India, often associated with weddings, festivals, or religious ceremonies.
- The term "doli" translates to a palanquin, which is a decorated vehicle used to carry individuals, usually brides, in a ceremonial manner.

### **Historical Context**

- **Cultural Significance:** Historically, Doli Yatra symbolizes the transition of a bride from her parental home to her husband's home. It is rich in tradition, often accompanied by music, dance, and rituals that reflect the cultural heritage of various Indian communities.

- **Regional Variations:** The Doli Yatra may vary in form and significance across different regions in India, incorporating local customs and traditions.

## Key Features

- **Procession Elements:**
  - **Palanquin:** A beautifully adorned palanquin that carries the bride.
  - **Family Participation:** Family members, friends, and community members participate, enhancing the communal spirit.
  - **Traditional Attire:** Participants typically wear traditional clothing, contributing to the festive atmosphere.
  - **Cultural Performances:** Music and dance are integral, with folk songs often sung to celebrate the occasion.
- **Religious Aspects:** In many cultures, the Doli Yatra may involve prayers and rituals, seeking blessings for the newlyweds.

## Modern Context

- **Evolution of Tradition:** While the traditional Doli Yatra remains prominent in rural areas, urban settings see adaptations, including the use of modern vehicles for transport.
- **Cultural Festivals:** Doli Yatra is also featured in cultural festivals and events, promoting the rich heritage of India.

## Livestock Census

### Syllabus: GS-3; Agriculture

#### Context

Rajiv Ranjan Singh, the Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, launched the 21st Livestock Census in New Delhi.

#### Key Aspects of the Livestock Census

1. **Purpose and Objectives:**
  - To gather detailed information on the species, breed, age, sex, and ownership status of livestock.

- To estimate the **Gross Value Added (GVA)** from the livestock sector, which significantly contributes to rural employment and the agricultural economy.
- To inform policy-making and ensure sustainable growth in the livestock sector, as well as track progress toward the United Nations **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, particularly related to food security and genetic diversity.

## 2. Scope and Coverage:

- The 21st Livestock Census is scheduled from October 2024 to February 2025, with approximately 87,000 enumerators visiting around 30 crore households, institutions, and enterprises across India.
- Data collection will encompass 16 species of livestock, including cattle, buffalo, sheep, goats, and poultry birds, as well as 219 indigenous breeds recognized by the **ICAR-National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources (NBAGR)**.

## 3. Innovations in the 21st Census:

- This census will be fully digitized, continuing from the previous census in 2019. It will utilize online data collection via a mobile application, monitoring through a digital dashboard, and geographic data capture (latitude and longitude).
- It will include new data points such as the socio-economic status of pastoralists and the contribution of pastoral animals to the livestock sector, as well as the income source of households reliant on livestock.

## 4. Findings from Previous Census (2019):

- The total livestock population recorded was 535.78 million, with significant contributions from:
  - 192.9 million cattle
  - 148.88 million goats
  - 109.85 million buffaloes
  - 74.26 million sheep
  - 9.06 million pigs

## Importance of the Livestock Census

- The census is crucial for assessing the livestock sector's impact on the economy, understanding rural livelihoods, and aiding in sustainable development efforts.
- It provides a foundational data set that influences agricultural policies, supports rural development initiatives, and aligns with global sustainability goals.

## **Emissions Gap Report, 2024**

**Syllabus: GS-3; Environmental Concern- International Institutions**

### **Context**

- This 2024 edition of UNEP's Emissions Gap Report tells us that nations must show a massive increase in ambition in new **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)**, these promises we make to each other and the world each five years.

### **About**

- The **Emissions Gap Report 2024** is a crucial assessment published by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) that evaluates the difference between where greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are projected to be and where they need to be to avoid the worst impacts of climate change.

### **Key Highlights of the Emissions Gap Report 2024**

- **Global Emission Trends:**
  - The report outlines the latest trends in global GHG emissions, indicating whether countries are on track to meet their climate targets as stipulated under the Paris Agreement.
  - It provides insights into the progress made since previous reports, analyzing emissions from different sectors and regions.
- **Assessment of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs):**
  - An evaluation of the NDCs submitted by countries, highlighting their adequacy and ambition in relation to the targets set for limiting global warming to 1.5°C or 2°C.
  - It discusses the gap between current commitments and the reductions needed to meet climate goals.
- **Required Emissions Reductions:**
  - The report specifies the level of emissions reduction required by 2030 to stay within safe climate thresholds.
  - Emphasis is placed on the urgency of scaling up climate actions to close the emissions gap.
- **Sectoral Analysis:**
  - Detailed assessments of key sectors such as energy, transport, agriculture, and industry, highlighting their contributions to emissions and potential for reductions.

- Recommendations for best practices and innovative solutions in each sector to accelerate emissions reductions.
- **Impacts of Climate Change:**
  - A discussion on the anticipated impacts of climate change if emissions are not curtailed, including extreme weather events, sea-level rise, and threats to biodiversity and human health.
  - The importance of resilience and adaptation measures in conjunction with mitigation strategies.
- **Policy Recommendations:**
  - Suggestions for policymakers to enhance ambition and implementation of climate policies.
  - Advocacy for a multi-faceted approach that includes international cooperation, financial mechanisms, and technological innovations.
- **Global Cooperation:**
  - The report underscores the necessity of global cooperation and collective action to address climate change effectively.
  - It encourages nations to share knowledge, resources, and best practices to facilitate a united response to the climate crisis.

## Conclusion

- The Emissions Gap Report 2024 serves as a vital tool for assessing the effectiveness of global climate efforts and highlights the critical need for increased ambition and action to mitigate climate change.
- Keeping updated with such reports is essential for aspirants aiming for a comprehensive understanding of environmental policies and their implications on global governance.

## Great Indian Bustard

### Syllabus: GS-3; Biodiversity

#### Context

- Just 150 left, glimmer of hope for great Indian bustard after first-ever artificial insemination birth in Jaisalmer.



### Scientific Classification

- **Scientific Name:** *Ardeotis nigriceps*
- **Family:** Otididae
- **Common Names:** Great Indian Bustard, Indian Bustard

### Habitat

- GIB prefers arid and semi-arid grasslands, scrublands, and open plains. They are primarily found in regions with sparse vegetation that provides suitable nesting and foraging areas.

### Geographical Distribution

- Historically widespread across the Indian subcontinent, their current distribution is limited to parts of:
  - Rajasthan
  - Gujarat
  - Maharashtra
  - Karnataka
  - Andhra Pradesh

## Behavior and Diet

- **Feeding:** GIBs are herbivorous, primarily feeding on grasses, seeds, and tubers. They also consume insects and small animals, especially during the breeding season.
- **Breeding:** The breeding season occurs during the monsoon months (July to September). Males perform elaborate courtship displays to attract females.
- **Nesting:** Females lay eggs on the ground in simple scrapes, usually 1-3 eggs, which are camouflaged.

## Conservation Status

**IUCN Status:** Critically Endangered

## Population Decline

- The GIB population has drastically declined due to habitat loss, hunting, and human encroachment. It is estimated that fewer than 150 individuals remain in the wild.

## Conservation Efforts

1. **Legal Protection:**
  - The GIB is protected under the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
  - Hunting of GIB is strictly prohibited.
2. **Habitat Conservation:**
  - Initiatives to conserve their natural habitat include the establishment of protected areas and grassland restoration projects.
3. **Breeding Programs:**
  - Captive breeding and release programs have been initiated to increase the population. Notable efforts are being made at institutions like the Wildlife Institute of India.
4. **Community Involvement:**
  - Engaging local communities in conservation efforts to reduce poaching and habitat destruction.

## Hwange National Park

**Syllabus: GS-3; Biodiversity**

### Context

- The Zimbabwean wildlife authority is investigating a suspected case of lion poaching after three carcasses of the big cats were discovered in the country's biggest wildlife reserve Hwange National Park.



### About

- **Location:** Hwange National Park is situated in the north-west of Zimbabwe, covering an area of approximately 14,650 square kilometers, making it the largest national park in the country.
- **Established:** The park was established in 1928 and was initially designated as a hunting ground before being declared a national park.
- **Geography:** The park features a mix of savanna, woodland, and semi-desert regions. The terrain includes sandy soils, clay pans, and a few natural water sources, primarily the Ngamo and Dete rivers.

- **Climate:** Hwange has a subtropical climate with a distinct wet season (November to March) and a dry season (April to October). The dry season is characterized by hot temperatures, while the wet season brings rain and cooler temperatures.

## Biodiversity

- **Flora:** The park is home to a diverse range of vegetation types, including acacia, baobab, and mopane trees. The vegetation varies from woodlands to grasslands.
- **Fauna:** Hwange is renowned for its rich wildlife, particularly its large elephant population, estimated to be over 40,000, which makes it one of the largest elephant sanctuaries in the world. Other notable species include:
  - **Mammals:** Buffalo, lions, leopards, hyenas, and various antelope species such as kudu, impala, and eland.
  - **Birds:** The park is a birdwatcher's paradise, with over 400 bird species recorded, including the rare African wild dog and numerous migratory birds.

## Conservation and Challenges

- **Conservation Efforts:** The park is managed by the Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority. It is part of various conservation initiatives focused on preserving biodiversity and promoting ecotourism.
- **Challenges:** The park faces challenges such as poaching, habitat loss, and human-wildlife conflict. Conservation efforts are being made to combat these issues through community engagement and sustainable tourism practices.