



DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS 12-11-2025

GS-1

1. **Ramnami Tribe**

GS-3

2. **Trachoma**
3. **ReALCRaft Portal**
4. **Rhesus Macaque**
5. **Pampadum Shola National Park**

Ramnami Tribe

Syllabus: GS-1; Tribes

Context

- Recently, two members of the Ramnami tribe became emotional when the Prime Minister broke protocol to allow them to adorn him with their traditional headgear, a peacock feather crown, during a public event.



About Ramnami Tribe

- **Location:** The tribe is primarily found in central and northern Chhattisgarh, India.
- **Origin:** The Ramnami Samaj emerged in the 19th century as a peaceful social reform movement against caste discrimination.
- **Founder:** It is believed to have been started by Parsuram Bhardwaj, the son of a low-caste sharecropper.

Belief System:

- They worship the formless or nirgun form of Ram.
- The Ramnamis tattoo the name "Ram" all over their bodies and faces to signify that God is omnipresent.

- They emphasize gender equality and devotion through bhajans and dance performances.

Cultural Symbols:

- They wear white attire decorated with the name "Ram".
- Their headgear made of peacock feathers represents purity and divinity.
- Ghungroos or ankle bells are worn during devotional singing and dancing.

Historical Significance:

- In 1910, upper-caste Hindus filed a case against the Ramnamis to stop their tattooing practice.
- The Ramnami Samaj won the case and secured their right to freely express devotion.

Trachoma

Syllabus: GS-3; General Science

Context

- **Fiji** has recently become the **26th country** to **eliminate trachoma as a public health problem.**



About Trachoma

- **Cause:** Bacterial infection by *Chlamydia trachomatis*.
- **Effect:** Affects the eyes; if untreated, can lead to **irreversible blindness**.
- **Transmission:** Highly contagious — spreads through contact with eyes, eyelids, nose, or throat secretions of infected people.
- **Risk Group:** Predominantly affects communities living in **poor environmental and hygiene conditions**.

Treatment

- **Antibiotics:** Azithromycin (oral)
- **Ointment:** Tetracycline-based eye ointment

Signs & Symptoms (Early Stage)

- Red and irritated eyes
- Swollen eyelids
- Blurred vision
- Watery discharge from eyes
- Discharge from the nose

WHO Initiatives

- Classified as a **Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD)**
- Estimated **150 million people worldwide** are affected
- Recommended strategy to eliminate trachoma: **SAFE**
 - **S** – Surgery (for advanced disease)
 - **A** – Antibiotics (to treat infection)
 - **F** – Facial cleanliness
 - **E** – Environmental improvement (better water and sanitation)

ReALCRaft Portal

Syllabus: GS-3; Science & Technology

Context

- The Government has notified rules for “**Sustainable Harnessing of Fisheries in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)**”, under which **mechanized and large-sized motorized vessels** are now required to obtain an **Access Pass** via the **online ReALCRaft portal**.

About ReALCRaft Portal

- **Full Form:** *Registration and Licensing of Fishing Craft (ReALCRaft)*
- **Developed by:** Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying

- **Technology:** Built using **open-source technology** as a **national online platform**

Objectives

- To create a **modern, transparent, and secure vessel data management system**.
- To enhance **efficiency, accountability, and reliability** in fishing vessel registration and licensing.
- To strengthen **coastal and maritime security** by integrating real-time vessel tracking.

Key Features

- **Online Registration & Licensing:** For marine fishing vessels, including transfer of ownership.
- **State Payment Integration:** Linked with state-specific bank/treasury gateways.
- **Security Integration:** Enables **real-time tracking and movement recording** of vessels by security agencies.
- **ISRO Integration:** Allows **real-time communication with fishermen at sea**.
- **Upstream Integration:** With **insurance agencies and subsidy schemes** for **electronic Direct Benefit Transfer (e-DBT)**.
- **Inter-Agency Data Sharing:**
 - **Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA)** – for *Fish Catch Certificates*
 - **Export Inspection Council (EIC)** – for *Health Certificates*

Significance

- Promotes **sustainable and responsible fishing** in the EEZ.
- Strengthens **fisheries governance** and **coastal security infrastructure**.
- Facilitates **digital transformation** and **ease of doing business** for fishers.

Rhesus Macaque

Syllabus: GS-3; New Species

Context

- The **Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife (SC-NBWL)** has **recommended reinstating the Rhesus Macaque under Schedule II** of the **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**.
- This move is aimed at improving **legal protection** and **management of human-wildlife conflict** involving this species.

About Rhesus Macaque (*Macaca mulatta*)

- **Type:** Old World monkey
- **Appearance:** Brown fur with **red faces and rears**; expressive faces due to close-cropped head hair.
- **Distribution:** Found across **India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, Myanmar, Thailand, Afghanistan, Vietnam, and southern China**.
- **Habitat:** Occupies **forests, mangroves, scrublands, grasslands**, and even **urban areas**; highly adaptable to **human-dominated landscapes**.
- **Diet: Omnivorous** – feeds on seeds, roots, bark, fruits, cereals, and sometimes insects.

Characteristics

- **Social Structure:** Live in **large troops** led by a **dominant male**.
- **Behaviour:** **Social, diurnal**, and both **terrestrial & arboreal**.
- **Communication:** Use **vocalizations, facial expressions, and gestures** for coordination and hierarchy.

Conservation Status

- **IUCN Red List:** *Least Concern*
- **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972:** *Proposed to be under Schedule II* (earlier removed).

Significance:

- Reinstating Schedule II protection helps regulate **capture, trade, and management**, while enabling **better conflict mitigation** and **scientific population control measures** in urban and rural regions.

Know more

RHESUS AND BONNET MACAQUES

What's the Difference?

HIGHLY SOCIAL OLD-WORLD MONKEYS FOUND ACROSS A VARIETY OF HABITATS FROM DEEP FORESTS TO URBAN CENTRES

<p>GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION In India – most parts of North India. Globally – South and Southeast Asia</p>	<p>SIZE Males are bigger Males: Average length – 53 cm and average weight – 7.7 kg Females: Average length – 47 cm and average weight – 5.3 kg</p>	<p>BEHAVIOURAL TRAITS More aggressive and assertive</p> <p>IUCN STATUS Least Concern</p> <p>TRADEMARK CHARACTERISTIC A prominent red patch on their rears</p>	<p>BEHAVIOURAL TRAITS Less aggressive and often playful</p> <p>IUCN STATUS Vulnerable</p> <p>TRADEMARK CHARACTERISTIC A tuft of long hair on the head that resembles a "bonnet"</p>	<p>GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION Endemic to Southern India</p>
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APPEARANCE
Reddish brown hair, short tail, pronounced pinkish face

Rhesus Macaques
(Macaca mulatta)



APPEARANCE
Light brown or greyish coat, long tail and a small face

Bonnet Macaques
(Macaca radiata)

SIMILARITIES

<p>SOCIAL STRUCTURE Highly social and live in troops, led by an alpha male</p>	<p>EAT Mostly fruits. Also, seeds, leaves, roots, buds, and bark. Occasionally, invertebrates like insects</p>	<p>ACTIVITY PATTERN Diurnal</p> <p>HABITAT USE Arboreal (tree) and terrestrial (land)</p>	<p>INTERACTIONS WITH HUMANS Due to a dietary overlap with humans, they often steal food articles from people</p>	<p>BEHAVIOUR Highly social; exhibit behaviours such as grooming; use vocalisations for communication</p>	<p>MATING SYSTEM Polygynandrous (both males and females mate with multiple partners)</p>	<p>THREATS Habitat loss, human-macaque conflict, hunting/poaching, illegal pet trade</p>
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PHOTO: SHAWN COLEMAN/ISTOCKPHOTO.COM; BONNET MACAQUE: ISTOCKPHOTO.COM/STEFAN; RHEBUS MACAQUES: ILLUSTRATION.COM/STEFAN; ILLUSTRATION.COM/STEFAN; ILLUSTRATION.COM/STEFAN



Pampadum Shola National Park

Syllabus: GS-3; Biodiversity

Context

- The Pampadum Shola National Park, once overrun by **invasive Australian wattles (Acacia species)**, is now witnessing a **successful ecological restoration**. Native

grasslands and streams are reviving, improving habitat conditions for endemic species.

About Pampadum Shola National Park

- **Location:** Eastern part of the **Southern Western Ghats**, Kerala; borders **Dindigul district (Tamil Nadu)**.
- **Declared:** National Park in **2004**.
- **Size:** **Smallest National Park of Kerala**.
- **Ecological Significance:**
 - Southernmost **shola-grassland mosaic** in the Western Ghats — among the **oldest mountain systems**, older than the Himalayas.
 - Forms a **biological corridor** between **Eravikulam National Park** and the **Palani Hills**, ensuring **animal movement and genetic flow**.
- **Topography:**
 - **Undulating terrain**, altitude: **1600–2400 m**.
 - Receives **heavy rainfall during the Northeast monsoon**.
- **Flora:**
 - Rich in **shola forests, tropical montane vegetation, medicinal plants, orchids, and ferns**.
- **Fauna:**
 - Key species: **Nilgiri marten, Kerala laughing thrush, black-and-orange flycatcher, elephants, and gaur**.

Significance of Restoration

- **Removal of invasive Australian wattle** has allowed **native grasslands and water systems to regenerate**.
- **Enhanced biodiversity** supports **rare endemic species** and **improves watershed health** for downstream areas.