

21st November 2024

Dhudmaras Village

Chhattisgarh's Dhudmaras has been recognized as global tourism hub by UN body

Key Points

- ❖ Dhudmaras, a hamlet located in the famous Kanger Valley National Park in Bastar district of Chhattisgarh, has been selected for the best tourism village upgradation programme by the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).
- ❖ Dhudmaras is among 20 villages chosen from 60 countries worldwide for the prestigious programme by the UN body, highlighting its potential for sustainable tourism development.
- ❖ The village is renowned for its natural beauty, tribal culture, and biodiversity, attracting visitors with its unique blend of traditional lifestyle, local cuisine, and scenic landscapes.

About UNWTO

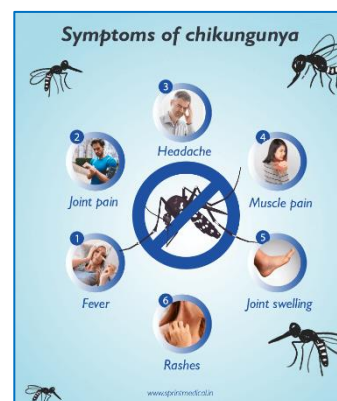
- ❖ The World Tourism Organization (UN Tourism) is the United Nations agency responsible for the promotion of responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism.
- ❖ UN Tourism has 160 Member States.
- ❖ India has been one of the member states since 1975.
- ❖ Headquarters: UN Tourism headquarters are based in Madrid, Spain.

Chikungunya

Following a spike in chikungunya cases in Telangana, the U.S. has issued a travel advisory for U.S. travelers returning from Telangana.

About Chikungunya

- ❖ Chikungunya is a mosquito-borne viral disease caused by the chikungunya virus.
- ❖ The name chikungunya derives from a word in the Kimakonde language, meaning "to become contorted".
- ❖ **Identified:** It was first identified in the United Republic of Tanzania in 1952.
- ❖ **Transmission:** The virus is transmitted by mosquitoes, most commonly *Aedes (Stegomyia) aegypti* and *Aedes (Stegomyia) albopictus*, which can also transmit dengue and Zika viruses.
- ❖ **Symptoms:** CHIKV disease onset is typically 4–8 days (range 2–12 days) after the bite of an infected mosquito. It is characterized by an abrupt onset of fever, frequently accompanied by severe joint pain.



First Bodo Mahotsav

Prime Minister Inaugurated the First Bodo Mahotsav in New Delhi to celebrate the language, literature, and culture of the Bodo community.

Key points

- ❖ The Bodoland Mahotsav is a cultural festival celebrating the language, literature, and culture of the Bodo community.
- ❖ The objective of the Festival is to strengthen peace and unity within the Bodo community building a vibrant Bodo society.

- ❖ **Theme:** “Peace and Harmony for Prosperous Bharat.”
 - It marks the first festival of unity post the 2020 Bodo Peace Accord, which ended 50 years of conflict.
- ❖ At the inauguration, PM also declared the North East, including Bodoland, as **India’s Ashtalakshmi**, a region of prosperity.

About Bodo Tribe

- ❖ The Bodos (or Boros) are an **ethnolinguistic group from Assam**.
- ❖ They primarily reside in the Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR) of Assam.
 - Also found in Bangladesh, Nepal, and other North-East Indian states.
- ❖ **Scheduled Tribe (ST) Status:** Recognized as “Boro” and “Borokachari” under The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950.
- ❖ **Language:** Bodo language belongs to the Tibeto-Burman family. It is included in the 8th Schedule of the Indian Constitution, granting it official recognition.

PM Visits to Guyana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi becomes first Indian PM to visit Guyana in 56 years

Key Points

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived in **Guyana on 20th Nov 2024, marking the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister to the South American country in 56 years.**
- ❖ He also co-chaired the 2nd India-CARICOM Summit with leaders from Caribbean partner nations.



- ❖ India and Guyana share a longstanding developmental partnership across various sectors, including health, connectivity, renewable energy, and defense.
- ❖ Recent initiatives include the delivery of an **ocean-going ferry built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers, the provision of two HAL 228 aircraft under a line of credit**, solar lighting for 30,000 indigenous households, and the training of 800 Guyanese professionals in India under the ITEC program.

Caribbean Community (CARICOM)

- ❖ It is the oldest surviving integration movement in the developing world.
- ❖ The **CARICOM is a grouping of twenty-one countries: fifteen Member States and six Associate Members.**
- ❖ It is home to approximately sixteen million citizens, 60% of whom are under the age of 30, and from the main ethnic groups of Indigenous Peoples, Africans, Indians, Europeans, Chinese, Portuguese and Javanese.
- ❖ It came into being **on 4 July 1973.**

India’s First Night Safari

Uttar Pradesh will give the country its first night safari by December 2026.

Key Points

- ❖ In a high level meeting, the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh said the **country’s first night safari in (Kukrail Night Safari) Uttar Pradesh’s Lucknow** will become operational by December 2026.

- ❖ The safari will be spread over 900 acres.
- ❖ The night safari area will be developed with **themed sections** like Indian Walking Trail, Indian Foothill, Indian Wetland, Arid India and African Wetland. Tourists will be able to explore the night safari park via a 5.5 km tramway and a 1.92 km pathway.



- ❖ When launched, it will be the **world's fifth night safari**.
- ❖ The project has got in-principle approval from the Central Zoo Authority (CZA) that is reviewing the DPR.

Night safari means a nocturnal visit to a zoo. The term was first used by the Night Safari, Singapore, which opened in 1994.

Schemes/Initiatives

Bhu-Neer portal

- ❖ On the 19th November 2024, Jal Shakti Ministry launched the newly developed "Bhu-Neer" portal.
- ❖ The **"Bhu-Neer"** is an **advanced portal developed by Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA), under the Ministry of Jal Shakti, in collaboration with the National Informatics Centre (NIC), for improved groundwater regulation across the country.**

- ❖ This portal will serve as a one-stop platform for managing and regulating groundwater resources, aimed at ensuring transparency, efficiency, and sustainability in groundwater usage.

Military Exercises

Sanyukt Vimochan 2024

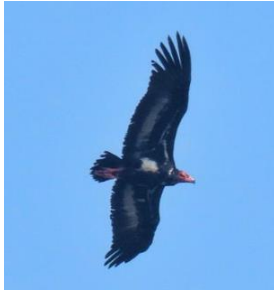
- ❖ **Multilateral Annual Joint HADR Exercise**
 - The Indian Army successfully concluded the Multilateral Annual Joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Exercise, 'Sanyukt Vimochan 2024'.
 - It was held in Ahmedabad and Porbandar, Gujarat.
 - The exercise was conducted by the Konark Corps of Southern Command of the Indian Army.

Poorvi Prahar

- ❖ **Joint military exercise between the Indian Army, Indian Navy, and Indian Air Force**
 - The Indian Army, Indian Navy, and Indian Air Force jointly conducted the exercise **'Poorvi Prahar' at Mechuka in Arunachal Pradesh.**
 - The exercise conducted from Nov 10 to 18, marked a significant milestone in joint warfare capabilities, featuring unprecedented coordination between the Army, Navy and Air Force in the Eastern Theatre.
 - The exercise was a full-fledged display of the might of the Indian Armed Forces, **featuring advanced weapons systems such as the M-777 Howitzer, the Navy's Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance aircraft P-8I, swarm drones, First Person View (FPV) drones, and loitering munitions.**

Species in News

Red-Headed Vulture



- ❖ For the first time rare Red-Headed Vulture spotted in Kasaragod, Kerala.
- ❖ **Scientific Name:** *Sarcogyps calvus*.
- ❖ It is also known as the **Asian king vulture, Indian black vulture or Pondicherry vulture**, is an Old World vulture mainly found in the Indian subcontinent.
- ❖ It is one of the 9 vulture species found in India.
- ❖ It is a **dark, medium-sized vulture with a bare reddish head and loose flaps** on the side of the neck.
- ❖ They are found in Central India, Nepal, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, and parts of Kerala, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ **Conservation Status:**
- ❖ **IUCN Red List:** Critically Endangered.
- ❖ **Wildlife Protection Act, 1972:** Listed under Schedule 1.
- ❖ **CITES Status:** Appendix II

Important News- Other States

Karnataka

- ❖ Karnataka is set to establish global innovation districts in **Bengaluru, Mysuru, and Belagavi**.

Miscellaneous

- ❖ On 20th November 2024, **India participated at IBTM Barcelona 2024**, one of the leading global travel exhibitions on MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions) in Barcelona. The theme of the three-day event is People, Power and Potential.
- ❖ Bollywood actor **Jackie Shroff has been appointed as the brand ambassador for the All Living Things Environmental Film Festival (ALT EFF)**, set from November 22 to December 8 in Mumbai.
- ❖ **Coal India Limited (CIL)** under the aegis of the Ministry of Coal, has been conferred with the esteemed **Green World Environment Award** in the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) category in London.

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