

20th November 2024

Comptroller and Auditor General

President Droupadi Murmu has appointed K Sanjay Murthy, an IAS officer of the 1989 batch, as the new Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India.



Key Point

- ❖ Murthy, who belongs to the Andhra Pradesh cadre, is presently the Secretary of the Department of Higher Education in the Union Ministry of Education.
- ❖ He is set to replace the incumbent CAG, Girish Chandra Murmu, who assumed office on August 8, 2020.
- ❖ Prior to being the CAG, Girish Chandra Murmu was the first Lieutenant Governor of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.
- ❖ The Comptroller and Auditor General of India is empowered to audit all union and state government departments, including railways, defense, India Post, and telecommunications.

About CAG

- ❖ Article 148 – Provides for an independent office of Comptroller And Auditor General
- ❖ CAG is head of the Indian Audit and Accounts Department
- ❖ CAG is “Guardian of Public Purse”

- ❖ The PRESIDENT OF INDIA appoints CAG under his warrant and seal.
- ❖ Holds office for a period of 6 years or 65 years, whichever is earlier.
- ❖ Article 149 discusses the duties and powers of Comptroller And Auditor General

56th Tiger Reserve of the country

The Guru Ghasidas- Tamor Pingla Tiger Reserve becomes the 56th Tiger Reserve to be notified in the country.



Key Point

- ❖ With this notification, Chhattisgarh is now home to four Tiger Reserves.
- ❖ The tiger reserve spans a total area of 2,829.38 sq.kms, which includes a core/critical tiger habitat of 2,049.2 sq.kms, comprising the Guru Ghasidas National Park and Tamor Pingla Wildlife Sanctuary, and has a buffer zone of 780.15 sq.kms.
- ❖ This makes it the third-largest tiger reserve in the country, following the Nagarjunasagar-Srisailem Tiger Reserve in Andhra Pradesh and the Manas Tiger Reserve in Assam.
- ❖ A total of 753 species, including 365 invertebrates and 388 vertebrates, have been documented in the Guru Ghasidas-Tamor Pingla Tiger Reserve by the Zoological Survey of India.

Tiger Reserves of Madhya Pradesh

- ❖ Kanha Kisli National Park
- ❖ Pench National Park,
- ❖ Bandhavgarh National Park
- ❖ Panna National Park ,
- ❖ Satpura National Park
- ❖ Sanjay - Dubari National Park,
- ❖ Rani Durgavati National Park

The latest tiger census of 2022 shows that India has 3,682 tigers and 785 tigers in Madhya Pradesh.

India's First Direct-to Device(D2D) Satellite Connectivity

BSNL, the state-owned telecom provider, has introduced India's first direct-to-device satellite internet service to provide broadband connectivity to remote areas.



- ❖ The service was launched in collaboration with Viasat, a US-based communications company.
- ❖ It was announced at the Indian Mobile Congress (IMC) 2024 and communicated by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT).
- ❖ Direct-to-device satellite technology is a connectivity solution that enables devices to directly communicate with

satellites in orbit, bypassing traditional ground-based cellular towers.

- ❖ This technology ensures network coverage in areas where cellular or Wi-Fi networks are unavailable, providing connectivity in remote or underserved regions.

Global Examples of Direct-to-Device Satellite Technology

- ❖ SpaceX's Starlink: Aims to provide global satellite internet coverage, including direct-to-cell capabilities.
- ❖ AST SpaceMobile: Developing a satellite-based cellular network for direct connection to standard mobile phones.
- ❖ Lynk Global: Focuses on direct-to-phone satellite communication for emergency and remote areas

Hamara Shauchalay: Hamara Samman'

Union Jal Shakti Ministry launched a three-week-long campaign named, Hamara Shauchalay: Hamara Samman on the occasion of World Toilet Day on 19 November.



Key Point

- ❖ The campaign is aimed at improving sanitation infrastructure, fostering behavior change, and strengthening community pride by enhancing the functionality and upkeep of toilets across the country.
- ❖ During the campaign competitions will be organized, and citizens will be encouraged to share their sanitation success stories through social media platforms.

Sukhna Lake

The Union Ministry of Environment has notified a 1 km to 2.035 km eco-sensitive zone around Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary.



Key Point

- ❖ Sukhna Lake, an artificial lake in Chandigarh, was created in 1958 by damming the Sukhna Choe stream from the Shivalik Hills.
- ❖ The lake spans around 3 sq. km, is 1.52 km long and 1.49 km wide, and is recognized as a National Wetland.

- ❖ The surrounding environment is characterized by rough terrain with steep slopes and predominantly sandy soil with clay seams. This makes the soil prone to erosion during rains, leading to silt-charged water runoff into the lake.
- ❖ Adjacent to the lake is the Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary, covering about 26 sq. km. The sanctuary is home to a rich diversity of avifauna, other fauna, and some species of reptiles.

Short News

- ❖ Mithali Raj, former Indian women's cricket captain, has been appointed as the Mentor of Women's Cricket Operations by the Andhra Cricket Association (ACA).
- ❖ Odisha secured a remarkable victory at the 14th Hockey India Senior National Championship, defeating Haryana, the two-time champions, 5-1 in the final held at the SDAT-Mayor Radhakrishnan Stadium in Chennai.
- ❖ Gabonese voters have approved a new constitution by a landslide 91.8 percent, proposed by the country's military rulers.
- ❖ Union Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare and Rural Development Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan addressed the Global Soils Conference 2024 organized in PUSA New Delhi on 19 November.

❖ Ashutosh Gowariker has been appointed the chairperson of the International Jury at the 55th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2024.

❖ Mukesh Ambani of India ranked 12th in the influential American Fortune magazine.

❖ Princess Mikasa, the oldest member of the Japanese imperial family, has passed away at the age of 101.

Important Daily Current Affairs Question

1. Who among the following is appointed as the new comptroller and auditor general of India ?

- A. K Sanjay Murthy
- B. Girish Chandra Murmu
- C. Ganesh chaturvedi
- D. Amitabh Kant

Answer -A

2. Which of the following Tiger Reserve became the 56th Tiger reserve of India?

- A. Nagarjunasagar-Srisaillam Tiger Reserve
- B. Manas Tiger Reserve in Assam
- C. Satpura Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh
- D. Guru Ghasidas- Tamor Pingla Tiger Reserve

Answer -D

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