

Bihar Special

Cat Snake

Why in the news?

A Cat Snake has been spotted in Valmiki Tiger Reserve.

About the Cat Snake:

- ❖ Its scientific name is *Boiga trigonata*.
- ❖ These snakes are nocturnal, meaning they become active and hunt as darkness falls.
 - During the day, their pupils shrink to narrow vertical slits, but as night approaches, the pupils dilate and become almost round.
- ❖ This snake is mildly venomous, which, while posing no life-threatening risk to humans, does have an impact on small animals.
 - Its venom can be dangerous to creatures such as lizards, frogs, rats, and birds, which the snake typically preys on.
 - This natural behaviour helps maintain balance within its ecosystem.



Defence And Security

AUSTRAHIND

Why in the news?

The 3rd edition of "AUSTRAHIND" commenced at Foreign Training Node, Pune in Maharashtra on 8th November 2024.

- ❖ It will be conducted from 8th to 21st November 2024.

About AUSTRAHIND:

- ❖ It is a joint military exercise conducted alternatively in India and Australia.
- ❖ Aim of Exercise:
 - To promote military cooperation between India and Australia through enhancement of interoperability in the conduct of joint sub-conventional operations in semi-urban environments in semi-desert terrain under Chapter VII of the UN mandate.
- ❖ It was instituted in 2022 and the first edition was conducted in the Mahajan Field Ranges in Rajasthan and the second iteration at Perth in Australia.



Persons In News

Harsh Vardhan Agarwal

Why in the news?

Emami Limited Vice Chairman and Managing Director Harsha Vardhan Agarwal has been elected as the FICCI president for 2024-25.

- ❖ He is currently serving as the Senior Vice President of FICCI.
- ❖ He will succeed Mahindra & Mahindra's Group CEO and Managing Director Anish Shah as the new president.

FICCI

- ❖ FICCI stands for Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry.
- ❖ It is the largest and oldest apex business organisation in India.
- ❖ It was founded in 1927 by Ghanshyam Das Birla.
- ❖ HQ: New Delhi



Index and Report

Adaptation Gap Report 2024

Why in the news?

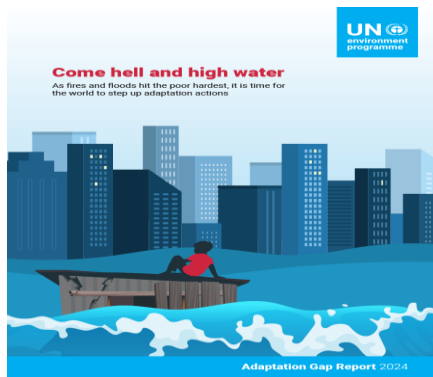
United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP) Adaptation Gap Report 2024: Come hell and High Water was released on November 7, 2024.

- ❖ It was released before the start of the 29th Conference of Parties (COP29) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) on November 11, 2024.

Key outcomes of the report:

- ❖ 2022 showed the greatest year-on-year absolute and relative increase in adaptation finance flows to developing countries which increased from \$22 billion in 2021 to \$28 billion in 2022.
- ❖ It also finds that the progress on planning and implementation of national adaptation plans has been slow.
 - On planning, 171 countries have at least one national adaptation planning instrument such as a policy or a strategy document.

- Of the 26 countries which do not have such an instrument, 10 have not shown the inclination to develop one.



Important Days/ Dates

World Adoption Day

Why in the news?

World Adoption Day is celebrated annually on 9th November.

- ❖ **Objective:** To raise awareness about the importance of adoption and the profound impact it can have on children's lives.
- ❖ **History of this day:**
 - It was founded in 2014 by Hank Fortner and his team at Adopt Together.
 - Adopt Together is a non-profit crowdfunding platform that seeks to bridge the gap between children in need of homes and families eager to adopt.
- ❖ India's adoption process is managed by the Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA)



Adoption Awareness Month: November, 2024

"Rehabilitation of Older Children through Foster Care & Foster adoption"



- ❖ It is an annual event where CARA and all its stakeholders come together to raise awareness about the legal process of adoption.
- ❖ The theme for Adoption Awareness Month 2024 is "Rehabilitation of Older Children through Foster Care and Foster Adoption."

International Week of Science and Peace 2024

Why in the news?

The International Week of Science and Peace is celebrated annually from November 9th to 15th.

❖ **Objective of this week:**

- To promote the role of science in fostering peace and to encourage the use of scientific knowledge and technology for the benefit of humanity.

❖ **History of this day:**

- It was established by the United Nations in 1986.

❖ **Significance:**

- It emphasizes the need for scientists, researchers, and policy-makers to work together in using science as a tool for promoting peace and enhancing human well-being.
- This week encourages innovation, the sharing of knowledge, and the development of solutions to pressing global issues.



News in Short

- ❖ **Bengaluru's first digital population clock** was inaugurated at the Institute for Social Economic Change (ISEC) in Bengaluru.
 - It will access real-time estimates of Karnataka's and population of the country.
 - The project was jointly taken up by ISEC, and the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW).
 - It would update the figures of the state's population for every 1.10 minutes (one minute 10 seconds) and the country's population every two seconds.
- ❖ **Madhya Pradesh has increased women's reservation to 35%** in all government jobs.
 - The increased reservation for women in Madhya Pradesh will apply to all categories including SC, ST and OBC.
 - As per the notification, 35 per cent of the reserved posts for each category will be given to women candidates of the same category.

- ❖ Australia has decided to ban "Social Media " for children under 16 years of age.
- ❖ NTPC Ltd, India's largest integrated power utility, celebrated its 50th Raising Day on 8th November 2024.

- ❖ Israeli researchers have developed a software package that enables computers to perform processing directly in memory, bypassing the central processing unit (CPU).



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