

## 02 May 2020: PIB Summary & Analysis

### 1. Sariska Tiger Reserve

- Sariska Tiger Reserve is located in the **Aravalli Hills, Alwar district, Rajasthan**.
- The park has populations of **tigers, leopards, Nilgai, Sambar, chital**, etc.
- It shelters a large population of **Indian peafowl, crested serpent eagles, sand grouse, golden backed woodpeckers, great Indian horned owls, tree pies, vultures** and many others.
- It was given the status of a **tiger reserve making it a part of India's Project Tiger in 1978**.

#### Project Tiger:

- Project Tiger is an ongoing **Centrally Sponsored Scheme** of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change providing central assistance to the tiger States for tiger conservation in designated tiger reserves.
- India now has as many as 2,967 tigers in the wild, with **more than half of them in Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka**, according to the latest tiger estimation report for 2018.
- The **population has increased by 33% since the last census in 2014** when the total estimate was 2,226.
- Sariska is the **first tiger reserve** to have successfully **relocated Royal Bengal tigers in India** and at present there are around 20 tigers in the reserve.

Read more about [tiger conservation in India](#) at the linked article.

### 2. Lifeline Udan

'Lifeline Udan' flights are being operated by MoCA to transport essential medical cargo to remote parts of the country to support India's war against COVID-19.

This topic has been covered in 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020 PIB Summary and Analysis. [Click here](#) to read.

### 3. IDEathon on 'The Future of River Management'

#### What's in News?

The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) under the Ministry of Jal Shakti and National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) organized an IDEathon on "The future of River Management" to explore how the [COVID-19](#) crisis can shape **River Management strategies** for the future.

#### Background:

- While the general narrative around this crisis has been that of anxiety and concern, the crisis has also thrown up some positive developments.
- One of these is the visible improvement in the natural environment.
- Rivers have become cleaner. The air has become fresher. There has been a significant drop in [GHG](#) emissions.

- Animals and birds are returning to and enjoying their habitats.

#### Details:

- Purely from a river management point of view, in India there has been a **noticeable improvement in the water quality of the Ganga and the Yamuna**.
- During the last year or so, the **Gangetic Dolphin, an indicator species**, has been showing improvements with sightings at several stretches of the river.
- The IDEAthons examined the **response mechanisms** that are needed in the event of a river crisis and how the **social angle of rivers can be leveraged** on to address other crises based on the lessons for river management that the pandemic has taught.
- National Mission for Clean Ganga had initiated this IDEAthons to garner more attention towards **river management** and also highlight the **interconnectivity of Cities with the River**.
  - A different perspective than traditional urban planning methods, the River cities need a special focus to capitalize on not only the socio-cultural significance of the river but also the ecological importance and economic potential which can help the city, if properly planned.
- With intent to mainstream River Management in a city's Urban Planning framework, NMCG has been developing a template for an Urban River Management Plan with the National Institute of Urban Affairs.
- NMCG is also working with GIZ (Germany's leading development agency) in developing the River Basin Organization and also River Basin Planning and Management Cycle to develop an adaptive framework under Namami Gange for Ganga river basin management.

#### Namami Gange:

- Namami Gange is **one of the largest river rejuvenation programs** aimed at ensuring effective **abatement of pollution and rejuvenation of the Ganga** basin by adopting an integrated river basin approach and promoting inter-sectoral coordination for comprehensive planning and management.

Read more about National Mission for Clean Ganga and Namami Gange. [Click here.](#)

