

15 Aug 2021: PIB Summary & Analysis

Operation Blue Freedom

Context:

Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment flagged off 'Operation Blue Freedom' to create a World Record at Siachen Glacier.

Details:

- Operation Blue Freedom is a pioneering expedition under which a team of people with disabilities from across the country undertook an expedition to [Siachen Glacier](#) to create a new World Record for the largest team of people with disabilities to reach the world's highest battlefield.
- The team of people with disabilities, trained by 'Team CLAW', a team of Armed Forces veterans, undertook this expedition till Kumar Post (Siachen Glacier) to create the new world record.
 - Kumar post is located at an altitude of about 15,632 feet.
- Operation Blue Freedom was founded by Team CLAW in 2019 as a movement to express the spirit and ability of people with disabilities.
- Objectives of Operation Blue Freedom:
 - To evolve the perception of society towards who they (disabled people) are and what they are capable of.
 - To secure their right to dignity.
 - To exercise their ability to contribute value and inspire freedom.
- Team CLAW is involved in a global mission to shatter the common perception of pity, charity and inability associated with people with disabilities and recreate it to one of dignity, freedom and ability.
- Team C.L.A.W is in the process of setting up centres across the globe where-in Special Forces Veterans and People with Disabilities are merging in action for creating a better life experience, for not only persons with disabilities but the non-disabled as well.
- They teach and train disabled people life skills and also design and implement sustainable large-scale employment solutions.

About Team CLAW:

- Team CLAW (Conquer Land Air Water) is a team of ex-Indian Special Forces commandos.
 - Each team member had been a soldier in the Army/Navy Special Forces and was highly trained with multiple specialisations in Mountaineering, Skydiving, Scuba diving, Un-armed combat, Multi-terrain survival tech, Emergency Med Response, etc.
 - The initiative was founded by Major Vivek Jacob who was with the Indian Army Special Forces.
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