

26 Feb 2023: PIB Summary for UPSC



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1. Exercise Cobra Warrior

Syllabus: GS 3, Security.

Mains: Various Security forces and agencies and their mandate.

Prelims: Exercise Cobra Warrior.

Details:

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) is participating in Exercise Cobra Warrior at the Waddington Air Force Base of the Royal Air Force in the United Kingdom.
 - The exercise will be held from 6 Mar 23 to 24 Mar 2023.
 - The contingent comprises 145 Air Warriors.
 - It is a multilateral Air exercise in which Air Forces from the U.K., India, Finland, Sweden, South Africa, the United States of America, and Singapore.
 - The aim of the exercise is to engage fighters in diverse fighter activities and learn from the best practices of each other.
 - Notably, IAF would participate with five Mirage 2000 fighters, two C-17 Globemaster III, and an IL-78 mid-air refueller aircraft.
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2. Banjara Dharmaguru Santh Sevalal Maharaj Jayanti

Syllabus: GS 1, History and Culture.

Mains: Significant personalities in Indian History.

Prelims: Banjara Dharmaguru Santh Sevalal Maharaj.

Context: Ministry of culture is celebrating Banjara Dharmaguru Santh Sevalal Maharaj Jayanti for the first time.

Details:

- The yearlong commemoration of the birth anniversary of Santh Sevalal Maharaj under the aegis of [Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav](#) begins on 26th February 2023.
- A two-day event (26-27 February 2023) as a part of the 284th Jayanti celebrations is being held in New Delhi.
- A special train is also being run from Karnataka (covering Telangana, Maharashtra, and Madhya Pradesh) to help the people of the Banjara community reach Delhi for the event.
- Santh Sevalal Maharaj is the Spiritual & Religious Leader of the Banjara Community.

Banjara Dharmaguru Santh Sevalal Maharaj:

- Santh Sevalal Maharaj was a social reformer and spiritual teacher of the Banjara community.
- He was born on 15 February 1739 at Surgondankoppa in the Shivamogga district of Karnataka.
- He travelled across the country to serve the nomadic tribes and forest dwellers.
- He has extraordinary knowledge, skills, and spiritual background in Ayurveda and Naturopathy and could thus dispel and eradicate myths and superstitions prevalent in the tribal communities.
- He was a reformer of Tribal life and is a revered symbol of every Banjara family.
- The Samadhi Sthal of the Saint is located in Manora Taluka (Washim District), Maharashtra. It is also known as Banjara Kashi.

Banjara Community:

- The population of the Banjara community in India is around 10 to 12 crore.
- The community has permanently abandoned their nomadic lifestyle and settled in their settlements called *Tandas*.
- The Banjara community settled in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, and Madhya Pradesh with different names.