

SHORTNEWS:

1. GREATER FLAMINGO SANCTUARY

NEWS: The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister officially launched the **Greater Flamingo Sanctuary at Dhanushkodi** in Ramanathapuram district during **World Environment Day** celebrations.

About Greater Flamingo

- **Scientific Name:** *Phoenicopterus roseus*.
- It is found in Africa, southern Europe, South Asia, and Southeast Asia, including India and Pakistan.
- **Conservation Status:** IUCN Red List: **Least Concern (LC)**
- **Presence in India**
 - Of the six species of flamingos in the world, India hosts **both Greater and Lesser Flamingos**.
 - The **Greater Flamingo** is **Gujarat's state bird**.
- **Habitat:** They live in **saltwater lagoons**, mudflats, and saline lakes.
- **Migration Pattern:** Every year, 100,000–150,000 flamingos migrate from **Gujarat to Mumbai**.
 - They usually arrive in November and **settle in the Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary**.

About Greater Flamingo sanctuary

- It is a part of the **Gulf of the Mannar Biosphere Reserve**, an **ecologically sensitive zone**.
- **Objective:** protect migratory birds and preserve local biodiversity
- **Biodiversity:**
 - Greater Flamingos and Lesser Flamingos , Herons, Egrets, Sandpipers, and Plovers.
 - **Region Includes important ecosystems like:** Mangroves, Sand dunes, Mudflats, and Marshes.
 - The Dhanushkodi lagoon serves as a **nursery for fish, mollusks, and crustaceans**, supporting local fisheries.
 - The region is also an important **nesting site for sea turtles**.

2. INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ADMINISTRATIVE SCIENCES

NEWS: India has won the **presidency of the International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS)** for the 2025-2028 term, **marking the first time the country** has held this position.

About IIAS

- It is an international non-profit organization focusing on **scientific research in public administration**.

- **Headquarters:** Brussels, Belgium
- **It has 31 member countries, 20 national sections, and 15 academic research centers collaborating on administrative reforms.**
- India has been a member since 1998.
- IIAS works closely with the **United Nations, participating in CEPA (Committee of Experts on Public Administration) and UNPAN (UN Public Administration Network).**
- While IIAS is **not officially affiliated with the UN, it actively engages in UN-related administrative initiatives.**

3. TEHRI PSP (VARIABLE SPEED PUMPED STORAGE PLANT)

NEWS: The Tehri PSP is India's first Variable Speed Pumped Storage Plant to have commenced its operation recently at Tehri, Uttarakhand.

About Tehri PSP (Variable Speed Pumped Storage Plant)

- **Operated by:** The 1000 MW Variable Speed Pumped Storage Plant (PSP) will be operated by the Tehri Hydro Development Corporation Limited (THDCIL)
 - The Tehri Hydro Power Complex's capacity will be elevated to 2,400 MW, **making it India's largest Hydropower Complex.**
- **Aim:** The project will significantly **strengthen grid stability and support the integration of renewable energy.**
- **Significance:**
 - The project will **convert off-peak surplus energy into peaking power, enhancing grid resilience** and supporting round-the-clock power availability.
 - Tehri Variable Speed PSP will enhance **India's ability to manage intermittent renewable energy.**

About Variable Speed Pumped Hydro Storage (VSPS) Technology

- **Variable Speed Pumped Hydro Storage (VSPS)** is an advanced form of **pumped hydro energy storage (PHES)** technology. It enhances the **efficiency, flexibility, and grid stability** of traditional pumped hydro systems, making it a key enabler for **renewable energy integration** in modern power systems.

4. KAZIRANGA NATIONAL PARK EXPANSION

NEWS: Recently, the Assam Cabinet, headed by CM Assam, approved the **expansion of the Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve.**

About Kaziranga National Park

- It is a **UNESCO World Heritage Site.**
- Declared a National Park in **1974.**

- **Location:** Golaghat and Nagoan in the state of Assam
 - It lies between **Brahmaputra River and the Karbi (Mikir) Hills.**
- **Rivers:** Brahmaputra flows along the northern boundary of the park.
 - Numerous other smaller rivers and streams such as Diphlu River, Mora Diphlu River, and Mora Dhansiri River pass through the National Park.
- **Landscape:** Sheer forest, tall elephant grass, rugged reeds, marshes, and shallow pools.
- **Fauna:** Many **endangered and threatened species** like **Rhino, Tiger, Eastern swamp deer, Elephant, Buffalo, Hoolock gibbon, Capped langur, and Gangetic River dolphin**
- **Significance:**
 - **World's largest population of one-horned rhinoceroses:** Home to **2,613 one-horned rhinos** (70% of global population).
 - **High tiger density:** 32.64 tigers per 100 sq. km.