### The Hindu News Analysis – 29th August 2019 – Shankar IAS Academy

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*C – Chennai; B – Bengaluru; T – Thiruvananthapuram; D – Delhi*
"NRC cannot protect indigenous people"

Various NGOs are against the 1971 base year for identifying foreigners in Assam.

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A guide to check names in NRC list
- Supplementary list of inclusions/exclusions status
- NRC Update in Assam
  - The Immigrants (Expulsion from Assam) Act, 1950
    - March 25, 1971
  - Anti-foreigners’ agitation (1979-1985)
  - Assam Accord
  - Tripartite meeting (2005)
- Assam Public works petition in Supreme Court
- Update process began in 2015
- To be completed by publishing updated NRC by 31st August 2019 (Expected/Scheduled)
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Star tortoise, otters get higher protection at CITES

A complete international ban will be enforced on their trade as part of efforts to boost numbers

Three Appendices on varying degrees of protection

1. Appendix I
   - Species threatened with extinction
   - Trade permitted only in exceptional circumstances
   - Scientific Research
   - Permits must be issued by the managing authorities of export & import countries

2. Appendix II
   - Species not necessarily threatened with extinction but trade must be controlled
   - to avoid incompatible utilisation

3. Appendix III
   - Species protected in one country
   - the country asks other parties to control trade

CITES
* International Agreement
* Aim: To ensure that the international trade in wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival
* Entered into force - 1st July 1975
* India party to the agreement in 1976
* 183 parties to CITES at present
* Conference of Parties - once in 3 years
* COP-18 ⇒ Geneva, Switzerland

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance.
- General issues on Environmental ecology, Bio-diversity and Climate Change - that do not require subject specialization.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-IV


- Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment.
### Star Tortoise
- **Scientific Name**: Geochelone elegans
- **Presence**: India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka
- **Threat**: Illegal Collection, Habitat Loss, Road Mortality, Pet Collection
- **IUCN Red List**: Schedule IV
- **CITES**: Vulnerable
- **Listed under Appendix I of CITES**

### Smooth-Coated Otter
- **Scientific Name**: Lutrogale perspicillata
- **Presence**: India, Nepal, Pakistan, Bhutan, Iraq, S.E. Asia
- **Threat**: Fur, Habitat Loss
- **IUCN Red List**: Schedule II (Part I)
- **CITES**: Vulnerable
- **Listed under Appendix I of CITES**

### Small-Clawed Otter
- **Scientific Name**: Aonyx cinerea
- **Presence**: S.E. Asia, India, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Nepal, China...
- **Threat**: Fur, Habitat Loss
- **IUCN Red List**: Schedule I (Part I)
- **CITES**: Vulnerable
- **Listed under Appendix I of CITES**

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**To be Geckas**
- Inclusion in Appendix II of CITES
- Scientific name - Gekko gecko
- IUCN Red List - Least Concern
- Sold in open in some South Asian Countries
A code of conduct for legislatures soon

The aim is to check interruptions

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Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance.
- Indian Polity and Governance—Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues, etc.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-III

General Studies—II: Governance, Constitution, Policy, Social Justice and International relations.

- Parliament and State legislatures—structure, functioning, conduct of business, powers & privileges and issues arising out of these.

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News

Statement by the Speaker of Lok Sabha

- Code of conduct will be framed for all the legislative bodies in India
  - Will be developed by a committee of Presiding Officers
  - Committee will consult with the Speakers of Legislative Assemblies and Chairman of Legislative Councils
  - Present report by year end

Code of Conduct in Indian Parliament

- Rajya Sabha
  - Introduced in 2005
  - To be followed by the members of Rajya Sabha

- Lok Sabha
  - No code of conduct for Lok Sabha formulated till date
  - Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha
    - Rule 316 B: Functions of Committee on Ethics in Lok Sabha
      - Formulate a code of conduct & suggest amendments to the code of conduct
News (Continued)

Speaker’s Statement (Contd.)

- Consensus among the Presiding Officers to increase the number of sittings of the State legislatures and to increase the productivity of the legislative work.
- All Presiding officers are of the unanimous view that Parliament and State Legislatures, which are the representative institutions, were accountable to the people.
- To check interruptions by the members of the legislative bodies.

- Need to have extensive and healthy debates in the legislatures for passing the laws.
- House needs to function without any disruption.

Challenges due to disruption of legislative bodies

- Undermine the democratic role of the legislatures.
- Governance process is affected.
- Wastage of Public exchequer.

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

- Originally established in 1911 as EPA – in 1948, the name changed to CPA.

- Objectives
  - Promote rule of law
  - Promote individual rights and freedoms
  - Pursue the ideals of parliamentary democracy

- Secretariat: London, United Kingdom.
New ₹9.3 crore study to check antibiotic resistance in Ganga

The government has commissioned a ₹9.3 crore study to analyze the microbial diversity in stretches of the Ganga and to identify sources of antibiotic resistance in the river. The study is being conducted by scientists at the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), Nagpur, and the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune, in collaboration with the Central Water Commission (CWC) under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

Objectives of the study

- Study to assess the microbial diversity
  - across the stretches of Ganga
  - microbes promoting antibiotic resistance
- Antibiotic resistance - type of Antimicrobial resistance
  - bacteria becomes resistant to antibiotics
- 2 year study - Scientists from several institutes
  - involves genome sequencing and genome mapping
  - genome - complete set of genes of an organism
  - genome sequencing - figuring out the order of DNA nucleotides or bases in a genome
  - genome mapping - set of landmarks - short DNA sequences - less detailed

- Indicates type of contamination of river - sewage and industrial
  - Source of Escherichia coli - surge in antibiotic resistance and threat to human life
- Study - complete stretch of Ganga
- Antibiotics in humans and animals - not completely broken down → to environment as waste
- Interaction with bacteria → increase in antibiotic resistance
- Mass bathing - Ganga - pilgrimage - increase in antimicrobial resistance

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### Spanish kids get ‘werewolf’ syndrome

**AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE**

At least 17 children developed the so-called “werewolf syndrome” in a major medicine mix-up in Spain, the Health Ministry said on Wednesday.

They are suffering from the rare condition known as hypertrichosis that causes abnormal hair growth.

The alert was given in June after parents started noticing their children – some of them babies – were growing hair all over their bodies after taking what they thought was omeprazole, a drug that helps with gastric reflux.

After investigating, authorities discovered the drugs they took actually contained minoxidil, a medication used for the treatment of hair loss.

The laboratory that sold the medicine has been closed.

### Werewolf Syndrome

- Hypertrichosis
- Excessive hair growth that can happen anywhere on the body for both male and female

### Classification
- Generalised Vs Localised → Distribution
- Congenital Vs Acquired → Age of Onset
- Vellus Vs Terminal → Type of hair

### News

- 17 children in Spain have developed ‘werewolf syndrome’
- Due to medicine mix-up
- Minoxidil instead of Omeprazole
- Can also be called as ‘Acquired generalised hypertrichosis’
Practice Question – Prelims

Q1. Consider the following statements.

1. The convention on international trade in Endangered species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) is an international agreement to regulate the international trade of plants and animals, including their products and derivatives to ensure their survival in the wild.

2. India is not a party to this agreement.

3. Appendix I includes species threatened with extinction and the trade in specimens of these species is permitted only in exceptional circumstances.

Which of the above statement/s is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 1 and 2 only
c) 1 and 3 only
d) 1, 2 and 3

Practice Question – Prelims

Q2. Which of the following animals are classified as ‘Vulnerable’ under the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List of Threatened Species.

1. Star tortoise
2. Smooth-coated otter
3. Small-clawed otter
4. Tokay Gecko

Choose the correct answer from the options given below.

a) 1 and 2 only
b) 1, 2 and 3 only
c) 4 only
d) 3 and 4 only

Practice Question – Prelims

Q3. Consider the following statements.

1. Commonwealth Parliamentary Association is a voice of the parliamentary democracy across the world.

2. The objective of the commonwealth parliamentary association is to promote rule of law and individual rights and freedoms and also to pursue the ideals of parliamentary democracy.

Which of the above statement/s is/are not correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 and 2

Practice Question – Prelims

Q4. The term ‘Werewolf syndrome’ recently seen in news refers to

a) A mental health condition
b) A business sentiment which causes selling of shares in the secondary market
c) A malware affecting the computer’s performance
d) A medical condition that causes excessive hair growth in the human body.