

## Prelim Bits 03-07-2023 | UPSC Daily Current Affairs

### Santal rebellion (Hul Revolt) 1855-56

Every year, the state of Jharkhand celebrates June 30 as 'Hul Diwas', marking the beginning of the Santal rebellion.

#### Santals

- The Santal people had migrated from the Birbhum and Manbhum regions (present-day Bengal) to Jharkhand, starting around the late 18th century.
- The 1770 famine in Bengal caused the Santals to begin moving and soon, the British turned to them for help.
- With the enactment of the *Permanent Settlement Act of 1790*, the East India Company brought a large area under settled agriculture.
- The area of Damin-i-Koh which is a forest to be settled by the Santals affected by the permanent settlement and the tribals are compelled to practice settled agriculture.

*At present the Santal community is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest tribal community in India, spread across Jharkhand-Bihar, Odisha and West Bengal.*

#### Santals Rebellion

- **Year** - 1855 (two years before the uprising of 1857).
- **Leaders** - Sidhu, Kanhu, Chand and Bhairav.
- **Participants** - As many as 32 caste and communities participated.
- **Region** - Damin-i-Koh, the present-day Jharkhand around the Rajmahal Hills. (Damin-i-Koh - Skirts of the hills)
- **Main Centre** - Bhognadih village in Sahebganj district of Jharkhand.
- **Method** - Guerilla warfare
- **Opposed by** - Merchants, Mahajans, Zamindars and Capitalist agriculture.

#### Reference

[The Indian Express | Hul Diwas](#)

### White-rumped Vulture

*Despite protective measures, the future of white-rumped vulture remains extremely perilous in the Sigur plateau in the Nilgiris.*

#### White-rumped Vulture

- **Scientific name** - *Gyps bengalensis*.
- **Conservation Status**
  - **IUCN Red List Status** - Critically Endangered.
  - **CITES** - Appendix II
- **Habitat** - Forest, Savannah, shrub land and grassland
- **Spread** - Indian Sub-continent and southeast Asia
- **Distribution in India** - Found throughout India.
- They occur in temperate areas, mostly in plains and occasionally in hilly regions.
- [Vultures in India](#) | [Threats to Vultures](#)

## Sigur plateau

- Sigur plateau, Nilgiris is the last southernmost viable breeding population for the White-rumped vulture in India.
- **Reasons for the population decline**
  - Vultures died after consuming organophosphorus (insecticides) and urea used to poison carnivores.
  - Anthropogenic pressures, such as cattle-grazing and poorly designed check-dams, have depleted the habitats of vultures.
- **Sigur Plateau** - It is one of the most vital wildlife corridors linking the western and eastern ghats.
- It is bounded to the northwest by the Bandipur National Park, to the east by the Sathyamangalam Wildlife Sanctuary, and to the west by the Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary.
- It is a part of the World Network of Biosphere Reserves of UNESCO.
- The corridor is critical for preserving the genetic diversity of the region's tigers and elephants.
- The Sigur plateau is home to the Irular community tribals.

## Reference

[The Hindu | White-rumped vulture faces threat in Nilgris' Sigur plateau](#)

## National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission

*Recently, Prime Minister launches the National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission.*

- Sickle Cell Anaemia (SCA) is a collection of inherited red blood cell conditions that have an impact on *haemoglobin*, which transports oxygen throughout the body.
- To know more - [Sickle cell Anaemia](#)

## National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission

- **Aim**
  - To eliminate Sickle Cell Anaemia by 2047
  - To improve the care and prospects of all sickle cell disease patients
- **Objectives**
  - Provision of affordable and accessible care to all SCD patients

- To ensure quality of care for SCD patients
- To reduce the prevalence of SCD
- **Ministry** - It is a joint mission of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and state governments.
- It focuses on addressing the significant health challenges posed by sickle cell disease, particularly among *tribal populations* of the country.
- It is now implemented in *17 high-focus states* across the country.
- The program is executed as part of the *National Health Mission (NHM)* through the platform of *Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK)* and *Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan (PMSMA)*.
- **Strategy** - The strategy emphasizes on 3 pillars:
- **Health promotion** - Awareness generation & pre-marital genetic counselling
- **Prevention** - Universal screening and early detection
- **Holistic Management & continuum of care**
  - Management of persons with sickle cell disease at primary, secondary and tertiary health care levels; treatment facilities at tertiary health care facilities
  - Patient support system
  - Community adoption
- **Beneficiaries** - Mission mode to cover 0 to 18 years of age and shall incrementally include the entire population up to 40 years as a part of National Health Mission.
- The program envisages *Sickle Cell Genetic Status Cards* to beneficiaries.

*World Sickle Cell Day observed each year on June 19.*

## Reference

[PIB | National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission](#)

## Bonalu Festival

*The annual bonalu festival held recently in the Golconda fort in Hyderabad.*

- It is an annual festival celebrated in the twin Cities Hyderabad and Secunderabad and other parts of Telangana state, India.
- It is dedicated to the worship of the Goddess Mahakali.
- The word “Bonalu” is derived from the Telugu word “Bhojanalu,” which means “feast” or “meal.”
- Bonalu involves worship of Kali in her various forms such Mysamma, Pochamma, Yellamma, Dokkamma, Pedamma, Poleramma, Ankamma, Maremma, Nookamma etc.
- Bonalu starts with the *Aahsda month* according to the Hindu calendar that falls in July/August.
- Other temples such as Akkanna Madanna temple in Haribowli, Muthyalamma temple in Shah Ali Banda are the popular venues where Bonalu is celebrated.

## Reference

## Pangong Tso Lake

*China is rushing to complete a bridge across the Pangong Tso, connecting the north and south banks simultaneously India is also building a black-topped road on its side on the north bank.*

- Pangong Tso is a high altitude saltwater lake in Ladakh.
- It is the world's highest saltwater lake.
- Pangong Lake, derives its name from the Tibetan word, "Pangong Tso", which means "high grassland lake".
- Formerly, Pangong Tso had an outlet to the Shyok River, a tributary of the Indus River, but it was closed off by natural damming.
- Two streams feed the lake from the Indian side, forming marshes and wetlands at the edges.
- **Distribution** - 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the lake is lying in India & the other 2/3<sup>rd</sup> is in China.
- Pangong Lake is a disputed territory between India and china where the Line of Actual Control passes through the lake.
- Pangong has a unique feature, it acts like a chameleon and changes its color from blue to green to even grey at times.
- Though it is a saline water lake, it freezes completely during winters.
- The lake is in the process of being identified as a wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention.
- After the convention, it will be a first trans-boundary wetland in South Asia.

### Reference

[The Hindu | India, China ramp up infra on north bank of Pangong Tso lake](#)

