

## Prelim Bits 15-11-2022 | UPSC Daily Current Affairs

### Sea Vigil-22

*The third edition of the 'pan-India' coastal defence Exercise 'Sea Vigil-22' is conducted by the Indian Navy.*

- Sea Vigil is a **national-level coastal** defence exercise which was conceptualised in 2018.
- The exercise validates various measures that have been instituted towards enhancing maritime security since '26/11'.
- The exercise is being conducted by the **Indian Navy** in coordination with the **Coast Guard** and other ministries involved in maritime activities.
- The exercise will be undertaken along the **entire 7516-km coastline** and **Exclusive Economic Zone** of India.
- The exercise involves all the Coastal States and Union territories along with other maritime stakeholders, including the fishing and coastal communities.
- It provides a realistic assessment of India's strengths, weaknesses and preparedness in maritime and national security.
- Sea Vigil and TROPEX together will cover the entire spectrum Maritime Security challenges.

*Theatre Level Readiness Operational Exercise (TROPEX) is an inter-service military exercise conducted every two years.*

### Other maritime security initiative after 26/11

- An Automatic Identification System (AIS) was made compulsory for all vessels above 20 metres after the 2008 terrorist attacks in Mumbai.
- A project to install transponders on small fishing vessels, under 20 metres in length was planned and the pilot started in Tamil Nadu.
- The transponders with positioning navigation systems have been modified into a two-way communication system in this pilot.

### References

1. [The Hindu - Projects to track small fishing vessels - Sea Vigil-22](#)
2. [Live Mint - India conducts major 'Sea Vigil' coastal defence exercise](#)
3. [Financial Express - Sea Vigil-22 - To validate maritime security mechanism](#)

### Global Shield Plan

*A G7-led plan called Global Shield was launched at the U.N. COP27 summit held at Egypt.*

- The Global Shield (GS) is a funding mechanism that provides funding to countries suffering climate disasters.
- **Coordinators** - The Group of 7 (G7) and the V20 group of climate-vulnerable countries.
- **Objective** - The GS will close urgent protection gaps in countries by designing, funding, and facilitating interventions.
- The GS aims to rapidly provide **pre-arranged insurance** and **disaster protection funding** after events such as floods, droughts and hurricanes hit.
- The Global Shield aims to complement, not replace, the progress on 'loss and damage'.

*Pakistan will be among the first recipients of funding from the G7 'Global Shield' initiative.*

- **Working of Global Shield** -

1. Countries will lead on identifying key protection gaps.
2. The GS provides a set of adequate instruments and partners to close these gaps in the most efficient and effective way.

*The Vulnerable Twenty (V20) Group of Ministers of Finance of the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF) is a dedicated cooperation initiative of economies systemically vulnerable to climate change.*

## References

1. [The Hindu - G7 launches climate 'Shield' fund](#)
2. [V20 - Working towards a global shield against climate risks](#)

## Operation Barkhane

*French President announced the end of the decade-long military Operation Barkhane in Africa.*

## The Sahel region of Africa



- France began its military operations in Sahel region in January 2013 with the title **Operation Serval**.
- It aimed to target Islamic extremists linked to al-Qaeda who took control of northern Mali.
- France regained Mali's northern regions from the extremists in 2014 through Operation Serval.
- In 2014, the mission was scaled up and renamed as **Operation Barkhane** to counter-terrorism.
- The objective was to assist local armed forces to prevent the resurgence of non-state armed groups across the Sahel region.
- Around 4,500 French personnel were deployed with the local joint counter-terrorism force.
- **Present Scenario** - The French troops left their base in the Malian town of Gao.
- Some 3,000 French troops will remain in Niger, Chad and Burkina Faso but they will not act independently and only will co-ordinate actions with national armies.

### References

1. [The Hindu - Why has France ended its military operations in Sahel?](#)
2. [BBC News - France calls time on Operation Barkhane in Sahel](#)

### Tokhü Emong Bird Count

*A recent birding drive Tokhü Emong Bird Count (TEBC) was organised in Nagaland has documented a total of 178 bird species in the state.*

- The Tokhü Emong Bird Count (TEBC) was Nagaland's first-ever birding event where birdwatchers across the state carried out a bird documentation exercise.
- The TEBC falls within the **Salim Ali Bird Count**, a nationwide event conducted by the Bombay Natural History Society.
- The **first edition** of TEBC documented 178 bird species in the state.

- The **4 day event** was organised in collaboration with
  1. The Wokha Forest Division,
  2. The Divisional Management Unit of Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP), Wokha, Nagaland,
  3. Bird Count India.

*Nagaland is a State with diverse festivals and diverse birdlife and is known as the 'Falcon Capital of the World'.*

- The event spread awareness about Nagaland's bird diversity.
- Some of the species recorded during TEBC apart from [Amur Falcons](#) included Red-billed Liocichla, Black-breasted Thrush, Mountain-Bamboo Partridge, Crested Finch bill and Rusty-capped Fulvetta.

### **Tokhü Emong**

- Tokhü Emong is post-harvest festival of the Lothas.
- Tokhü Emong is a 9 day festival celebrated in the month of November.
- Tokhü Emong is also a festival of thanksgiving, sharing, and reconciliation.

*Lotha is a Naga community dominantly found in Wokha district of Nagaland.*

### **References**

1. [The Hindu - Nagaland to undertake first bird count](#)
2. [Down to Earth - Nagaland records 178 bird species](#)
3. [Live Mint - Nagaland's first-ever birding event](#)

### **Long Term-Low Emission Development Strategy**

*At the 27<sup>th</sup> UN Conference of Parties (COP27) in Egypt's Sharm el-Sheikh, India submits long-term low emission development strategy to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).*

- **Obligation** - The 195 member countries of the UNFCCC were obliged to submit the Long Term-Low Emission Development Strategy (LT-LEDS) document by 2022.
- But, only 57, including India, have done so.
- **India's LT-LEDS** - India's LT-LEDS was launched to transition to a "low emissions" pathway.
- The LT-LEDS has been prepared in the framework of India's right to an equitable and fair share of the global carbon budget.

# India's road to 'net zero'

At COP-27, India announced its long-term strategy to transition to a 'low emissions' pathway to become carbon neutral by 2070

## KEY MILESTONES

■ The National Hydrogen Mission, launched in 2021, aims to make India a green hydrogen hub

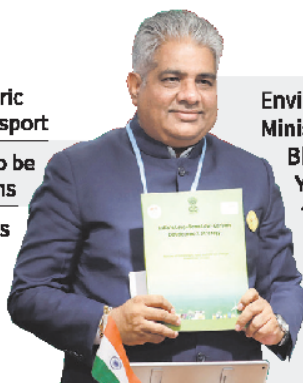
■ At least a three-fold increase in nuclear capacity by 2032

■ Achieving an ethanol blending target of 20% by 2025

■ Maximising the use of electric vehicles, increase public transport

■ Increased climate finance to be provided by developed nations

■ The long-term strategy aims at keeping global temperatures well below 2 degrees Celsius and, ambitiously, 1.5 degrees Celsius by the century-end



Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav at the COP-27 summit in Egypt on Monday. REUTERS

- **Objectives** - The strategy is aimed at rational utilisation of national resources with due regard to energy security.
- It further focuses on the increased use of biofuels, especially ethanol blending in petrol.
- It also envisages maximising the use of green hydrogen fuel to drive the low carbon development of the transport sector.
- It further says that the transitions from fossil fuels will be undertaken in a just, smooth, sustainable and all-inclusive manner.
- India's LT-LEDS is premised on expanding its nuclear power capacity by at least three-fold in the next decade.
- These steps are consonant with India's "five-decade journey" to net zero, or being carbon neutral by 2070 - a commitment made by Indian Prime Minister at Glasgow, where the 26th COP 2021 was held.
- **Strategic Low-Emissions Development Transitions** - Low Carbon Development of Electricity Systems Consistent with Enhanced Development Benefits
- Develop an Integrated, Efficient, Inclusive Low-Carbon Transport System
- Promoting Adaptation in Urban Design, Energy and Material-Efficiency in Buildings, and Sustainable Urbanisation
- Promote Economy-Wide Decoupling of Growth from Emissions and Development of an Efficient, Innovative Low-Emission Industrial System
- CO2 Removal and Related Engineering Solutions
- Enhancement of Forest and Vegetative Cover Consistent with Socio-Economic and Ecological Considerations.
- Economic and Financial Aspects of Low-Carbon Development
- **Related Links** - [Mission LiFE \(Lifestyle for Environment\)](#)

## Reference

1. [The Hindu | Atomic energy, hydrogen power India's net zero plan](#)
2. [Business Standard | India submits long-term low emission development strategy at COP27](#)
3. [UNFCCC | India's Long-Term Low-Carbon Development Strategy](#)



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