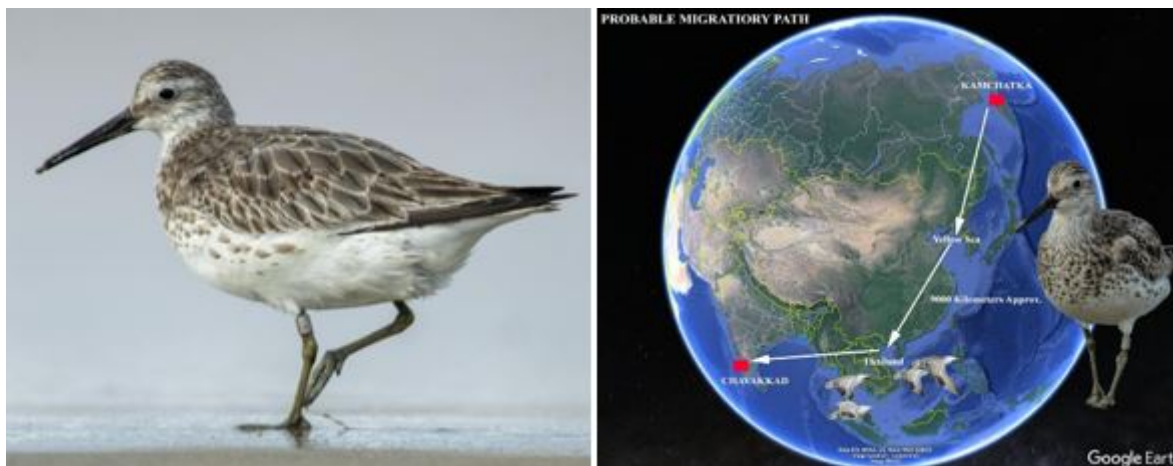


## Prelim Bits 22-11-2022 | UPSC Daily Current Affairs

### Great knot

A great knot from Russia has found its way to Kerala's coast, flying over 9,000 km for a winter sojourn.

- Great Knot (*Calidris tenuirostris*) is a long-distance migrant that largely travels along the coast making few stopovers.
- The migratory bird traverse the **Central Asian Flyway (CAF)**, one of the 9 most important flyways of migratory birds.



- **Distribution** - They breed in north-east Siberia, stage in the Yellow Sea and winter in Australia.
- The Great Knot is a regular though uncommon **non-breeding visitor** (October to March) on the entire east coast of India and especially the south east coast.
- **Threats** - Habitat destruction, pollution and commercial development.
- **Conservation Status**
  1. IUCN - Endangered
  2. CMS - Appendix I

### References

1. [The Hindu - Great knot sighting untangles a migration mystery](#)
2. [IUCN - Great Knot - \*Calidris tenuirostris\*](#)

### National Suicide Prevention Strategy

The union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare rolled out a National Suicide Prevention Strategy.

- National Suicide Prevention Strategy is the first of its kind in the country, with **time-bound** action plans and **multi-sectoral** collaborations.
- The Strategy seeks to -
  1. Establish effective surveillance mechanisms for suicide within the next 3 years;
  2. Establish psychiatric outpatient departments that will provide suicide prevention services through the District Mental Health Programme in all districts within the next 5 years;
  3. Integrate a mental well-being curriculum in all educational institutions within the next 8 years.
- It also envisages to develop guidelines for responsible media reporting of suicides, and restricting access to means of suicide.

*In India, more than one lakh lives are lost every year to suicide, and it is the top killer in the 15-29 years category.*

- The strategy framed to suit India's milieu, is also in line with the WHO's South East-Asia Region Strategy for suicide prevention.
- The strategy aims to achieve reduction in suicide mortality by 10% by 2030.
- The Ministry also launched **Tele-MANAS** for tele mental health services.

*India decriminalised suicide in 2017 through the Mental Healthcare Act (MHCA) of 2017.*

## References

1. [The Hindu - The country's first suicide prevention policy](#)

## Namda and Nuno felting

*Kashmiri artisan has blended Kashmiri traditional art with Australia's Nuno felting technique and created unique products.*

- The traditional Kashmiri carpet which originated in the **11th century** during the **reign of Akbar**, is called Namda.
- Namda was invented when Akbar ordered for a suitable coverage for his horse who was affected by biting cold.
- The tradition of making Namda is handed down through generations.

*Namda is a term used for felted wool floor coverings (carpets).*

- **Method** -The carpets are made by felting sheep wool rather than weaving it. The felted carpets are predominately made of pure sheep wool.
- Namda is usually a sandwich of many layers of wool flattened over each other using

'pinjra' (woven willow wicker).

- The plain Namda is then hand embroidered using 'Aari Kaam' colourful dyed threads with Kashmiri Aari Embroidery.
- Namda is then washed and dried, and made ready to use.
- This Kashmiri handicraft (Namda carpets) are sold both in local and international markets.



- **Nuno felting** - It is a felting method created in Australia years ago.
- Nuno felting is a technique for fusing loose fibers (typically sheep's wool) into sheer fabrics like silk, rayon, etc.

## References

1. [The Citizen - Nuno felting Kashmiri artisan](#)
2. [ZEE News - Making traditional 'Namda' with a new twist](#)
3. [Hindustan Times - Namda: The traditional felted craft of Kashmir](#)

## Global Partnership on AI

*India assumed its Chair of the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI).*

- The 3rd edition of the annual Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI) summit was held in Tokyo with France as its chair.
- India takes over as Council Chair of GPAI for 2022-23.
- **Launch** - Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI) is an international initiative to support responsible and human-centric development and use of Artificial Intelligence (AI).
- GPAI is the idea of G7 and launched in 2020 with 15 members.
- **Members** - GPAI is a congregation of 25 member countries with India joining them in 2020 as a founding member.
- It is a first-of-its-type initiative for evolving better understanding of challenges and opportunities around AI.
- **Working** - OECD is hosting the GPAI Secretariat.
- GPAI is a multi-stakeholder initiative working with leading experts from science, industry, civil society, international organizations and government.
- It aims to promote responsible evolution of AI and guide the responsible development and use of AI, grounded in human rights, inclusion, diversity, innovation, and economic growth.

## References

1. [PIB - India takes over as Council Chair of GPAI](#)
2. [Hindustan Times - What is GPAI?](#)
3. [Live Mint - India assumes chair of the GPAI](#)
4. [Global Partnership on AI](#)

## Framework to curb Fake reviews

*The Union government unveiled a framework of standards to curb fake reviews on e-commerce websites.*

- Reviews play a critical role in shopping in e-commerce. They are more important in 3 sectors, namely - Tour and travel; Restaurant and eateries; and Consumer durables.
- The Department of Consumer Affairs constituted a committee to develop a framework on checking fake and deceptive reviews in e-commerce in June, 2022.
- The committee included various stakeholders including
  1. E-commerce companies,
  2. Industry associations,
  3. Consumer organizations and
  4. Law chairs.
- **Standard** - The framework named '**Indian Standard (IS) 19000:2022 Online Consumer Reviews** — Principles and Requirements for their Collection, Moderation and Publication', is prepared by the **Bureau of Indian Standards**.
- The standard is meant to protect consumer interest in e-commerce from the impact of fake and deceptive reviews and will come into effect from November 25<sup>th</sup> 2022.
- **Provisions** - The standard provides for responsibilities of organization including developing a code of practice, and necessary stipulations for terms and conditions.
- The standard also provides for methods for verification of review author to check traceability and genuineness of the review author.
- Identification by telephone call or SMS, verification through email address, confirming registration by clicking on a link, using captcha system are few suggested methods for verification of review author.
- **Applicability** - The standards will apply to every online platform which publishes consumer reviews and to everyone who publishes reviews online (both solicited and unsolicited reviews).
- **Compliance** - Voluntary initially. E-commerce entities can get checked and certified from BIS.
- If made mandatory, the violation of the standard is punishable as 'unfair trade practice' or 'violation of consumer rights'.

## References

1. [The Hindu - Centre sets 'standard' for product reviews](#)
2. [Indian Express - Framework to curb fake reviews](#)



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