



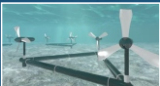
Development in India A Report on Tidal Energy



The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy has submitted a report on tidal energy development in India.

The committee has identified three main types of ocean energy: wave energy, tidal energy and ocean thermal energy.

The total estimated potential of tidal energy is about 12,455 MW. In this, potential sites have been identified in the areas of Khambhat and Kutch and areas with large backwaters. Here barrage technology can be used in energy production.





Main points of the report:-

- Tidal energy potential should be re-evaluated to find out an implementable plan.
- For demonstration or experimental tidal power projects should be started. With this, the feasibility of commercial production of tidal electricity can be ascertained.

Tidal energy:-

- It is a form of energy generated by the natural rise and fall of ocean tides. Sea tides are generated due to the gravitational interaction between the Earth, the Sun and the Moon.
- Currently there are three different ways of getting tidal energy: tidal barrages (dam-like structures), tidal lagoons (partially closed barriers) and tidal currents (water bodies formed by the rapid flow of tidal water).

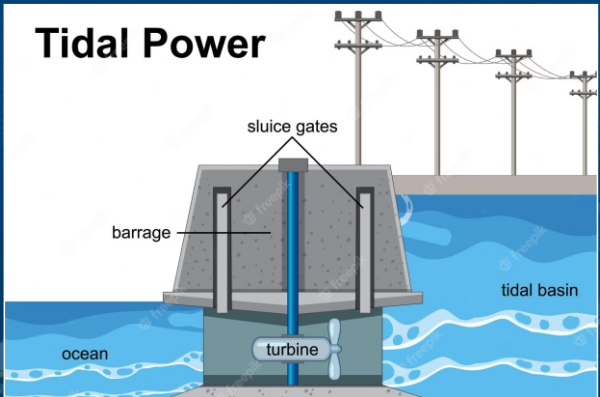
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Significance:

- Dependence on fossil fuel will be less,
- Harvesting and conversion of tidal energy will help in protecting the coastline etc.





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Assam Rifles



Resentment is being seen in Manipur these days regarding the Assam Rifles. At the same time, Manipur BJP has also come out against it. The BJP has submitted a memorandum to the Prime Minister demanding the replacement of the Assam Rifles.

The tussle between the police and the Assam Rifles in Assam is only going on. Taking suo moto cognizance, Manipur Police has taken action against 9 Assam Rifles.

The Assam Rifles is a central paramilitary force under the Central Armed Police Forces.



- Since its formation in 1835, the Assam Rifles has fought in two world wars, the Indo-China War of 1962.
- It is used as an anti-insurgency force against insurgent groups in the Northeast. The role of the Assam Rifles kept changing after independence. Role in Indo-China War of 1962, Indian peacekeeping force (Operation Pawan) in Sri Lanka in 1987 as well as peacekeeping role in the North-Eastern region of India.
- It is the only paramilitary force with an optional structural composition. The control of the force lies with the Ministry of Home Affairs, its operational power rests with the Indian Army, which is under the Ministry of Defence (MOD). This means that the salary and infrastructure for the force is provided by the Ministry of Home Affairs, but the deployment, posting, transfer and deputation of personnel is decided by the army.
- All its senior ranks, from DJ to IG, and sector headquarters are manned by Army officers.
- The force is commanded by a Lieutenant General of the Indian Army.





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Keralam

KERALA TO BE RENAMED KERALAM?



- The Kerala Assembly unanimously passed a resolution urging the Center to officially change the name of the state to 'Keralam'.
- The resolution, moved on behalf of the state by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, urged the central government to change the name of the state to 'Keralam' in all the languages included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution of India.
- Presenting the resolution, the Chief Minister said, 'The state is called 'Keralam' in Malayalam, but it is still Kerala in other languages.'
- It is noteworthy that approval from the Union Home Ministry is required to change the name of any state.
- States were formed on the basis of language on 1 November 1956. That day is also celebrated as Kerala Foundation Day.



- The Malayalam-speaking community has been demanding a Kerala state since the time of the freedom struggle, however, the name of the state is Kerala in the First Schedule of the Constitution.
- The Assembly unanimously requested the Central Government to take immediate steps under Article 3 of the Constitution to change the name of the state to Keralam.
- Article 3 deals with the formation of new states and changes in the territories, boundaries or names of existing states.
- Regarding 'Kerlam', scholars believe that it must have originated from 'Cheram'. German scholar Dr. Hermann Gundert, who published the first Malayalam-English dictionary, said that the word 'keram' is the Kannada form of cheram.
- The German scholar describes Cheram as the region between Gokarnam and Kanyakumari in Kerala.

Procedure to change the name of a state in India:-

- Changing the name of a state requires approval from the Ministry of Home Affairs of the Centre.
- Hence a constitutional amendment becomes necessary for any change in the name of the state.
- The proposal first comes from the state government, then after obtaining the No Objection Certificate (NOC) from several agencies like the Union Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Railways, Intelligence Bureau, Department of Posts, Survey of India and Registrar General of India, the central government takes the decision to change the name.
- If the motion is accepted then the resolution introduced in the Parliament as a bill becomes a law and thereafter the name of the state is changed.



Elephant Census-2023



- Karnataka ranked No. 1 in South India with an elephant population of 6,395 in 2023.
- As per the estimation of the population size and composition of Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*), the state recorded an increase of 346 elephants in 2023 as compared to the 2017 census.
- The number of elephants in Karnataka has increased by 346, from an estimated 6,049 in 2017 to 6,395 now, according to an interim report on Bengaluru: Demographic Projections of Asian Elephants – 2023.
- World Elephant Day is observed on 12 August to create awareness about the importance of conservation and protection of these animals, classified as endangered species.



- The report was prepared between May 17 and 19 by the Karnataka Forest
- Department in collaboration with Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Goa
- The number of elephants in Karnataka, which increased from 5,740 in 2010 to 6,072 in 2012, declined to 6,049 in 2017. However, there is an increase of 346 in the number of elephants in 2023.
- The census conducted in 23 forest divisions shows that the average density of elephant in the state is 0.34 per sq km.
- Bandipur Tiger Reserve with 1,116 elephants has the highest density of 0.96 per km², followed by Nagarhole Tiger Reserve with 831 elephants with an average density of 0.93.



- Similarly, BRT Tiger Reserve with 619 elephants has a density of 0.69 while MM Hills Wildlife Sanctuary with 706 elephants has a density of only 0.60.
- The state forest department carried out an exercise to estimate the number of elephants with technical support from IISC Bengaluru professor R Sukumar.
- More than 3,400 employees from 32 forest divisions of the state were involved in this census exercise.



Project Elephant, 1992:-

- The Government of India launched the prestigious "Project Elephant" in the year 1992.
- Under this project, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change provides financial and technical assistance to states with major elephant populations in the country.
- The project is mainly being implemented in 16 states namely Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

Elephant

African Elephants

There are two subspecies of African elephants, the Savanna (or bush) elephant and the Forest elephant.


IUCN:
African Savanna: **Endangered**,
African Forest: **Critically Endangered**

Asian Elephants


There are three subspecies of Asian elephant which are the Indian, Sumatran and Sri Lankan

IUCN Red List: **Endangered**,
World Elephant Day: **August 12**

African Elephants




African Bush Elephant




African Forest Elephant


Asian Elephants




Indian Elephant



Borneo Pygmy Elephant



Sri Lankan Elephant



Sumatran Elephant

