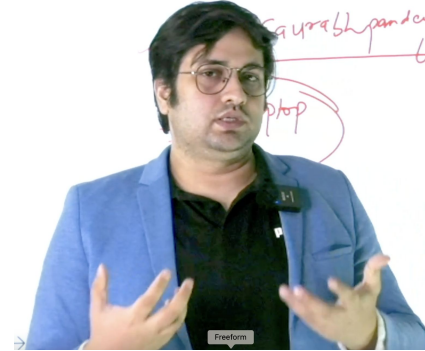


Topics - MINDS MAPS included



- Demchok
- Clean Ganga Mission
- The waggle dance
- What is the Godda project?
- Banni grassland
- What is an Alternative Investment Fund?
- Sabina Shoal:
- Mains

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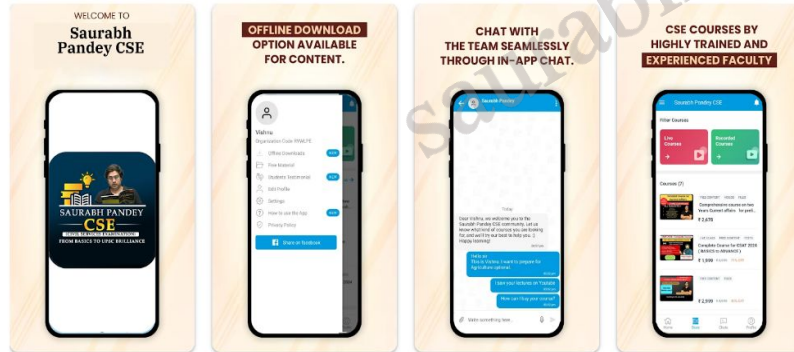
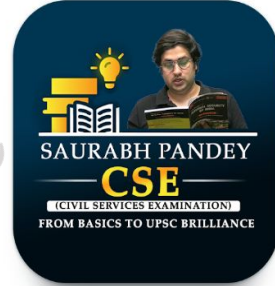
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Topic- Demchok



- **Demchok is a border area between India and China, located in the Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir, which is administered by India.**
- **The area is part of the larger Sino-Indian border that has been a source of tension between the two countries for decades.**
- **Demchok is significant not only because of its strategic location but also because it is one of the few places along the Line of Actual Control (LAC)—the de facto border between India and China—where both sides have civilian settlements in close proximity to each other.**
- **The region is inhabited by nomadic herders from both countries, and the settlements are separated by the LAC.**
- **The dispute over Demchok, as with other areas along the Sino-Indian border, stems from differing interpretations of historical treaties and agreements, as well as the lack of a clearly demarcated border in some areas.**



Mapping ---> Lunge valley & Nilung valley Ladakh

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Topic- Clean Ganga Mission



Overview

Objective: To rejuvenate the Ganges River and improve water quality 

Stakeholders: Government, NGOs, local communities, and international bodies 

The Clean Ganga Mission aims to clean the Ganges River, addressing pollution and restoring its ecology for future generations.

Key Components

Project Management

Leadership and Coordination

Funding and Budgeting 💰

Monitoring and Evaluation 📊

Pollution Control

Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) 🏭

Industrial Waste Management

Riverbank Cleaning Initiatives 🌿

Public Awareness

Community Engagement Programs 

Educational Campaigns in Schools

Involvement of Local Residents 

Biodiversity Conservation

Protecting Aquatic Life 

Restoring River Ecosystems

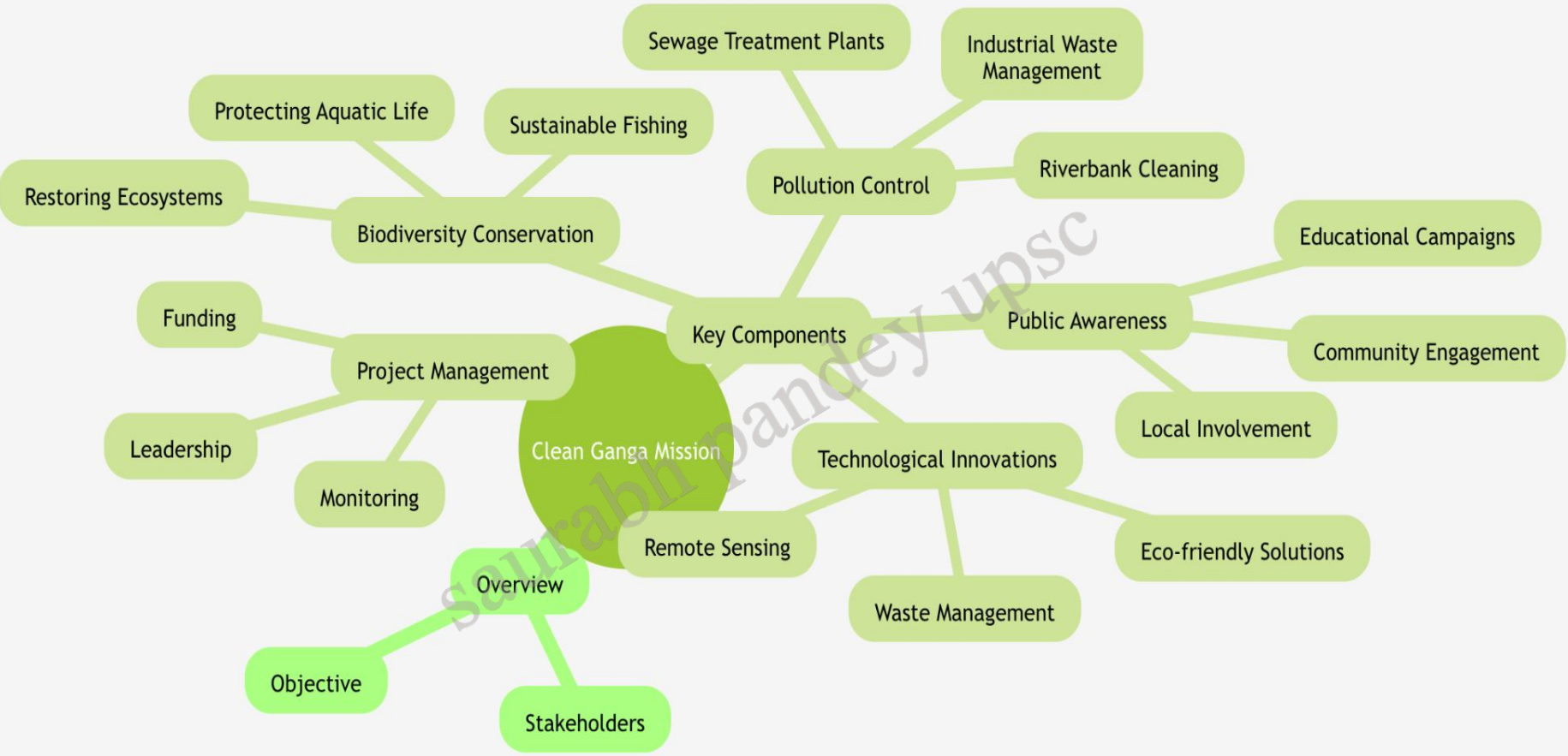
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Waste Management Technologies

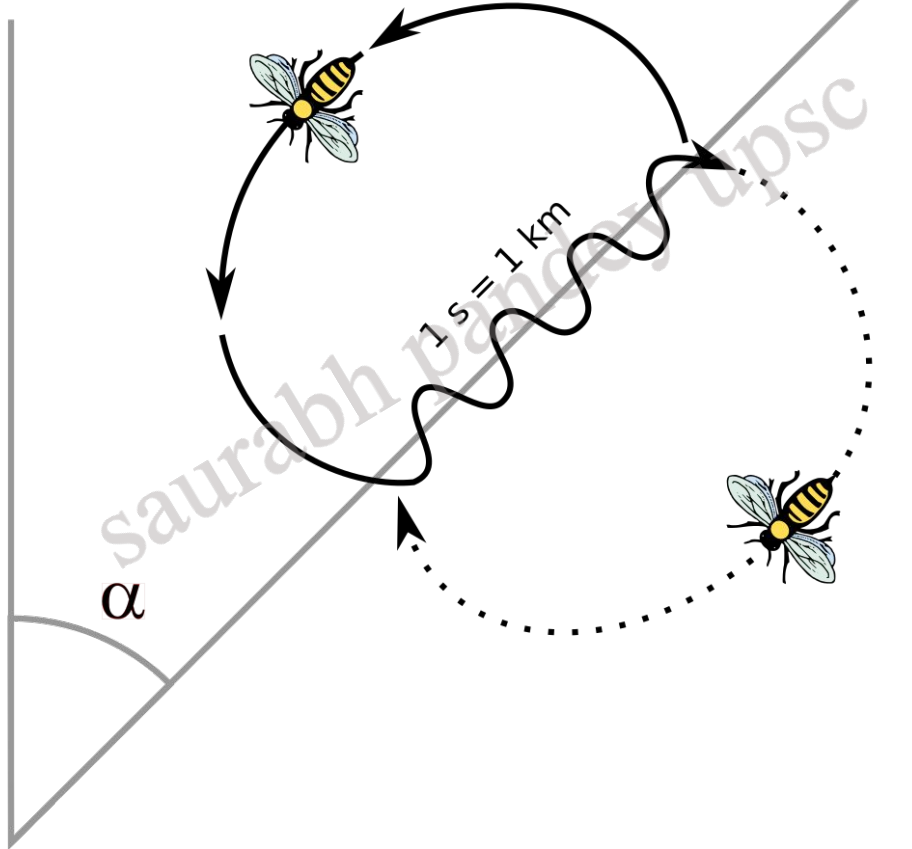
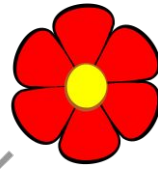
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Topic- The waggle dance



- The waggle dance Bees use two kinds of dances to communicate information: the waggle dance — at the heart of the new controversy — and the circle dance.
- The purpose of either dance is for some honey bees to communicate to others the location of a flower patch with more nectar or pollen.
- One bee dances while the others watch it to figure out the directions.
- During a waggle dance, the bees move in a figure of eight formation, roughly, while in a circle dance, the bees move in a circle.
- The waggle dance indicates both the distance and the direction to the patch. In this the straight line in the roughly figure of eight formation is called the waggle run.
- The circle dance indicates only the distance to the hive.





Topic- What is the Godda project?

- **The Jharkhand-subsidiary of Adani Power supplies 1,496-megawatt net capacity power to Bangladesh from the ultra super-critical thermal power plant in Godda.**
- **This is facilitated under a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) entered with the Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) in November 2017 for a period of 25 years.**
- **The Godda plant is India's first transnational power project that supplies all the power generated to another nation.**

- **In a statement on July 15 last year, Adani Power stated that the electricity supplied from Godda will have a positive impact on the neighbour's power situation by replacing costly power generated using liquid fuel.**
- **It elaborated that the transition would help reduce the average cost of power purchased.**

Why was the project criticised?

- The criticisms emanated from the use of coal imported from the Carmichael mine in Australia into India to produce power for Bangladesh.
- Thermal plants utilise coal as a primary fuel.

- **India's South Asian neighbour continues to experience fuel and gas supply constraints, thus, contributing to the underutilisation of its power plants.**

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Topic- Banni grassland



- **Unique Ecological Landscape:** The Banni grasslands, spanning over 3,000 square kilometers, form one of the largest expanses of grassland in the Indian subcontinent. Situated in Gujarat's Kachchh district, this region is renowned for its rich biodiversity and unique ecological features, providing a valuable learning opportunity for students to understand diverse ecosystems.
- **Cultural Significance:** The grasslands are not only a vital ecosystem but also hold cultural significance, being inhabited by pastoral communities that have a deep connection to the land and its resources, offering insights into the intersection of human societies and natural environments.
- **Legal Protection:** The Banni grasslands are legally protected under the Banni Grassland Reserve, ensuring the preservation of this critical ecological area and providing a case study for the importance of conservation efforts.

Geographic and Environmental Characteristics



- **Location and Landscape:** Situated along the northern border of Kachchh district, the Banni grasslands boast a diverse landscape, including scrub forests and wetlands, contributing to its ecological richness. Understanding the geographical features and environmental conditions of the grasslands is essential for comprehending the factors influencing biodiversity.
- **Biodiversity Hotspot:** The region's unique environmental conditions support a wide array of flora and fauna, making it a hotspot for biodiversity and wildlife conservation efforts, offering students an opportunity to explore the interconnectedness of species and their habitats.
- **Challenges and Threats:** Despite its ecological significance, the Banni grasslands face threats from factors such as invasive species and land degradation, necessitating conservation measures, providing a real-world context for environmental challenges and solutions.

Human-Environment Interaction



- **Pastoral Communities:** The grasslands are home to pastoral communities, such as the Jat, Mutwa, Hingora, and Hingorja tribes, whose traditional livelihoods are intricately linked to the sustainable use of the grassland resources, offering insights into the coexistence of human communities and natural landscapes.
- **Livestock Grazing:** The symbiotic relationship between the pastoralists and the grasslands is characterized by sustainable livestock grazing practices, which have shaped the ecological dynamics of the region for generations, providing a case study for sustainable land use practices.
- **Cultural Heritage:** The Banni grasslands are not only an ecological treasure but also a repository of cultural heritage, with the pastoral communities' traditions and knowledge contributing to the sustainable management of the landscape, highlighting the importance of indigenous knowledge in conservation.

Topic- What is an Alternative Investment Fund? (economy)



- **Alternative Investment Fund or AIF is a privately pooled investment vehicle that invests in alternative asset classes such as private equity, venture capital, hedge funds, real estate, commodities, and derivatives.**
- **Generally, HNIs (High net worth individuals) and institutions invest in the AIFs as the investment amount is substantially higher.**
- **AIFs are regulated by the SEBI (Securities and Exchange Board of India). As per the SEBI (Alternative Investment Funds) Regulations, 2012, an AIF can be set up as a trust, a company, a limited liability partnership, or a corporate body.**
- **However, many of the AIFs that have been registered with SEBI are in the form of trusts.**

Types of AIFs in India



AIFs can be further divided into three categories, such as:

Category I AIF: This category of AIF invests in start-ups, early-stage ventures, social ventures, SMEs, or infrastructure or other sectors considered socially or economically beneficial by the government or regulators fall into this category. It may be further classified into:

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Venture capital funds (Including Angel Funds): This fund specifically invests in start-up or early-stage ventures that have high growth potential.

SME Funds: This fund invests in small and medium enterprises with a good track record in profitability and growth.

Social Venture Funds: This fund invests in companies that aim to make a positive impact on society or the environment, such as sustainability, clean energy, etc. It has also generated favorable returns in the past.

Infrastructure funds: This fund invests in infrastructure projects such as railways, bridges, airports, etc.



Category II AIF: These are the AIFs that do not fall under categories I and III. They do not use leverage or debts other than to cover their day-to-day operational expenses. Some of the funds included in the Category II are as follows:

Private Equity Funds: It makes equity investments in unlisted companies and helps them to raise capital. As unlisted companies face problems in raising capital through debt or equity, private equity funds allow them to raise capital easily.

Debt Funds: This fund invests in the debt securities of the unlisted companies via debt instruments such as bonds, debentures, and other fixed-income instruments.

Fund of Funds: This fund invests in multiple AIFs. It doesn't directly buy stocks or bonds. Instead, it invests in a portfolio of other investment funds.



Category III AIF: These AIFs use complex trading strategies in their investment. It may use leverage or debt for investment in listed or unlisted derivatives. Some of the funds included in Category III are:

Private Investment in Public Equity Fund (PIPE): This fund invests in the equity of companies that are listed on the stock exchange. This often happens when the value of the company's shares has dropped, and the company is looking to raise capital. Hence, in this case, AIFs receive the equity at a discounted price.

Hedge fund: Hedge fund uses various investment strategies like short selling, arbitrage, futures, derivatives, and margin trading to generate maximum returns for the investor.

Topic- Sabina Shoal:



Context of Sabina Shoal

Location: Disputed area in the South China Sea 

Involved Parties:

China

Philippines

Recent Incidents: Collisions between ships from China and the

Philippines  

Key Events



Collision Incidents:

Chinese and Philippine ships collide near Sabina Shoal.

Accusations exchanged between China and the Philippines over the collisions.

Diplomatic Tensions:

**Ongoing tensions over territorial claims in the South China Sea.
Military maneuvers and responses from both countries.**

Implications

Regional Stability: Potential flashpoints for conflict in the South China Sea.

International Relations: Impact on US-Philippines alliances amidst rising tensions with China.

Latest news highlights the ongoing maritime disputes in the South China Sea, particularly around Sabina Shoal.



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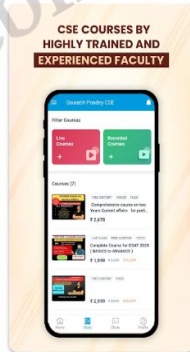
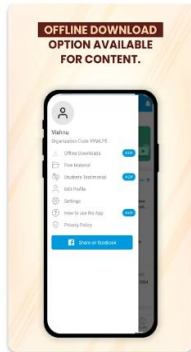
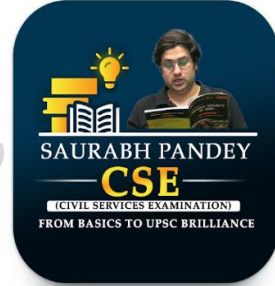
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