

7. Short News

1. Bargi Dam Safety Concerns

The National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) issued a notice regarding safety lapses at Bargi Dam.

About the Dam

Location- Narmada River, Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh).

Type- Composite concrete gravity dam (masonry + earthen).

Purpose- Multipurpose (Irrigation, Hydro-power, Flood control).

Projects- Supports Bargi Diversion and Rani Avantibai Lodhi Sagar projects.

2. Orobanche Infestation (Mustard Crop)

Farmers in Rajasthan/Haryana face yield losses due to *Orobanche aegyptiaca*.

About the Weed

Type- A root parasitic weed (lacks chlorophyll) native to the Mediterranean.

Threat

- Stealthy- Attacks underground for 30–40 days before detection.
- Resistant- Hard to kill with herbicides without damaging the crop.
- Long-lived- Seeds survive in soil for up to 20 years.

Impact- Causes 30–50% yield loss by stealing water/nutrients.

Control- Crop rotation, herbicide-resistant hybrids, and Integrated Weed Management.

3. Shaksgam Valley Dispute

India rejected China's attempts to change the status quo in Shaksgam Valley.

About Shaksgam Valley

Location- North of the Karakoram Range (Ladakh).

Status- Claimed by India; illegally ceded by Pakistan to China in 1963.

Significance

- Strategic depth for China near the LAC. Part of the CPEC corridor connecting Xinjiang to Pakistan.
- Reinforces the two-front threat to India.

4. Personality Rights & John Doe Suit

Actor Kamal Haasan sued for protection against AI exploitation.

Personality Rights

- Right to control commercial use of one's identity (image, voice, name).
- Derived from Article 21 (Right to Privacy/Dignity) of the Constitution.

John Doe Suit- Legal action against unknown/anonymous violators (e.g., online pirates) to stop illegal activity.

5. Bhadrakali Temple Inscription

Inscription at Prabhas Patan (Gujarat) reveals Somnath Temple history.

Key Facts

Date- 1169 CE.

Ruler- Solanki King Kumarapala.

Describes the 4 phases of Somnath Temple (Gold → Silver → Wood → Stone).

Kumarapala- A major Chaulukya (Solanki) ruler who rebuilt the temple in stone.

6. Aralam Butterfly Sanctuary

Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary (Kerala) renamed as the state's first Butterfly Sanctuary.

Location- Kannur, Kerala (Western Ghats).

Geography- Cheenkanni River flows through it; borders Brahmagiri (Karnataka).

Biodiversity

- Over 266 butterfly species (e.g., Malabar Rose, Southern Birdwing).
- Hosts elephants, leopards, and Slender Loris.

Other Butterfly Parks- Bannerghatta (Karnataka - India's first), Sikkim Butterfly Reserve, Asola Bhatti (Delhi).

7. Organic Farming (Bamanwas Kankar Panchayat)

Bamanwas Kankar (Rajasthan) became the state's first fully organic village body.

Organic Farming– Avoids synthetic chemicals; uses natural resources.

Schemes

1. PKVY (Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana)– Promotes organic farming for domestic markets.
2. MOVCDNER– Focuses on export markets for North East India.
3. Nodal Agency– National Centre of Organic Farming.

