

1. Geneva Convention

Topic: International Affairs



GENEVA CONVENTIONS: A COMMITMENT TO A COMMON HUMANITY

429

is the total number of articles in the 4 Geneva Conventions.

The Swiss city of Geneva shares its name with the Conventions and has become the global hub of humanitarian efforts.



The Swiss citizen Henry Dunant first came up with the idea of creating an international convention to protect victims of war.



With 196 state parties, the 4 Geneva Conventions have been universally ratified.

12 AUGUST 1949

adoption of the 4 Geneva Conventions which protect wounded, sick and shipwrecked members of the armed forces (I & II), prisoners of war (III) and civilians (IV).

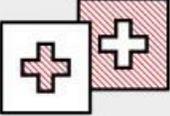


MILLIONS

of lives have been saved in hundreds of armed conflicts in the last 7 decades thanks to the 4 Geneva Conventions.



The red cross is one of the distinctive emblems recognised by the First Geneva Convention and is formed by reversing the colours of the Swiss flag.



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In News: Geneva convention is in news related with the Russia-Ukraine conflict and its tragic consequences.

More on the Topic:

- The Geneva Conventions are a set of four treaties, formalised in 1949, and three additional protocols, which codify widely accepted ethical and legal international standards for humanitarian treatment of those impacted by any ongoing war.
- There are four Geneva convention associated protocols.
- **The First Convention:** Convention for the Amelioration of the condition of the wounded and sick in Armed Forces in the field.
- It protects the soldiers who are hors de combat (Out of the battle).
- **The Second Convention:** Convention for the Amelioration of the condition of the wounded, sick, and shipwrecked members of armed forces at sea.
- It is the same as the first convention but at sea. It protects the wounded and sick combatants while on a ship or at sea.
- **The Third Convention:** Convention for the Treatment of Prisoners of War (PoWs).
- It sets the rules that provide for humane treatment of the PoWs including their criminal trial.
- **The Fourth Convention:** Convention for the protection of Civilians during the time of war.
- It includes citizens from the areas of occupied territories or armed conflicts.

In addition to these, there are two protocols that supplement the above four conventions.



- Additional Protocol 1 of 1977 extends **the protection for military and civilian medical workers** as well as the civilian population in international armed conflicts. It also provides for the establishment of a fact-finding commission for alleged non-compliances.
- Additional Protocol 2 of 1977 extends the protection **to the victims involved in non-international conflicts**. It does not apply to riots & conflicts that are internal in nature. It prohibits torture, taking of hostages, rape, & any other form that outrage personal dignity.
- Additional Protocol 3 of 2005 relates to the adoption of an **additional distinctive emblem**: the red crystal.

The signatory Countries:

- The Geneva Conventions have been **ratified by 196 states**, including all UN member states.
- The three Protocols have been ratified by 174, 169 and 79 states respectively.
- In 2019, perhaps anticipating the possibility of its invading Ukraine in the near future, Russia withdrew its declaration under Article 90 of Protocol 1.
- The four conventions and first two protocols of the Geneva Conventions were ratified by the Soviet Union, not Russia, hence there is a risk of the Russian government disavowing any responsibility under the Conventions.

Source: The Hindu

2. Foreign Portfolio Investors

Topic: Indian Economy

| Distinction between FDI and FPI | |
|--|---|
| FDI | FPI |
| 1. It is long-term investment | 1. It is generally short-term investment |
| 2. Investment in physical assets | 2. Investment in financial assets |
| 3. Aim is to increase enterprise capacity or productivity or change management control | 3. Aim is to increase capital availability |
| 4. Leads to technology transfer, access to markets and management inputs | 4. FPI results in only capital inflows |
| 5. FDI flows into the primary market | 5. FPI flows into the secondary market |
| 6. Entry and exit is relatively difficult | 6. Entry and exist is relatively easy |
| 7. FDI is eligible for profits of the company | 7. FPI is eligible for capital gain |
| 8. Does not tend be speculative | 8. Tends to be speculative |
| 9. Direct impact on employment of labour and wages | 9. No direct impact on employment of labour and wages |
| | 10. Fleeting interest in mgt. |

In News: Amid Russia- Ukraine Crisis FPIs fear India would be hit more by commodity price hikes, particularly in crude, since India is a major importer. Overseas investors have pulled out around 46000 crores from domestic markets this month so far.

More on the Topic:

- Foreign portfolio investment (FPI) consists of **securities and other financial assets held by investors in another country.**
- **It does not provide the investor with direct ownership of a company's assets** and is relatively liquid depending on the volatility of the market.
- Along with foreign direct investment (FDI), FPI is one of the common ways to invest in an overseas economy. FDI and FPI are both important sources of funding for most economies.
- On a macro-level, **foreign portfolio investment is part of a country's capital account** and shown on its balance of payments (BOP). BOP calculates the amount of money flowing from one country to other countries over a financial year.

Source: Business Today

3. Syllipsimopodi Bideni

Topic: Environment and Ecology

In News: Scientists have named a now-extinct relative of the octopus that has 10 arms after President Joe Biden 'the syllipsimopodi bideni'.

More on the Topic:

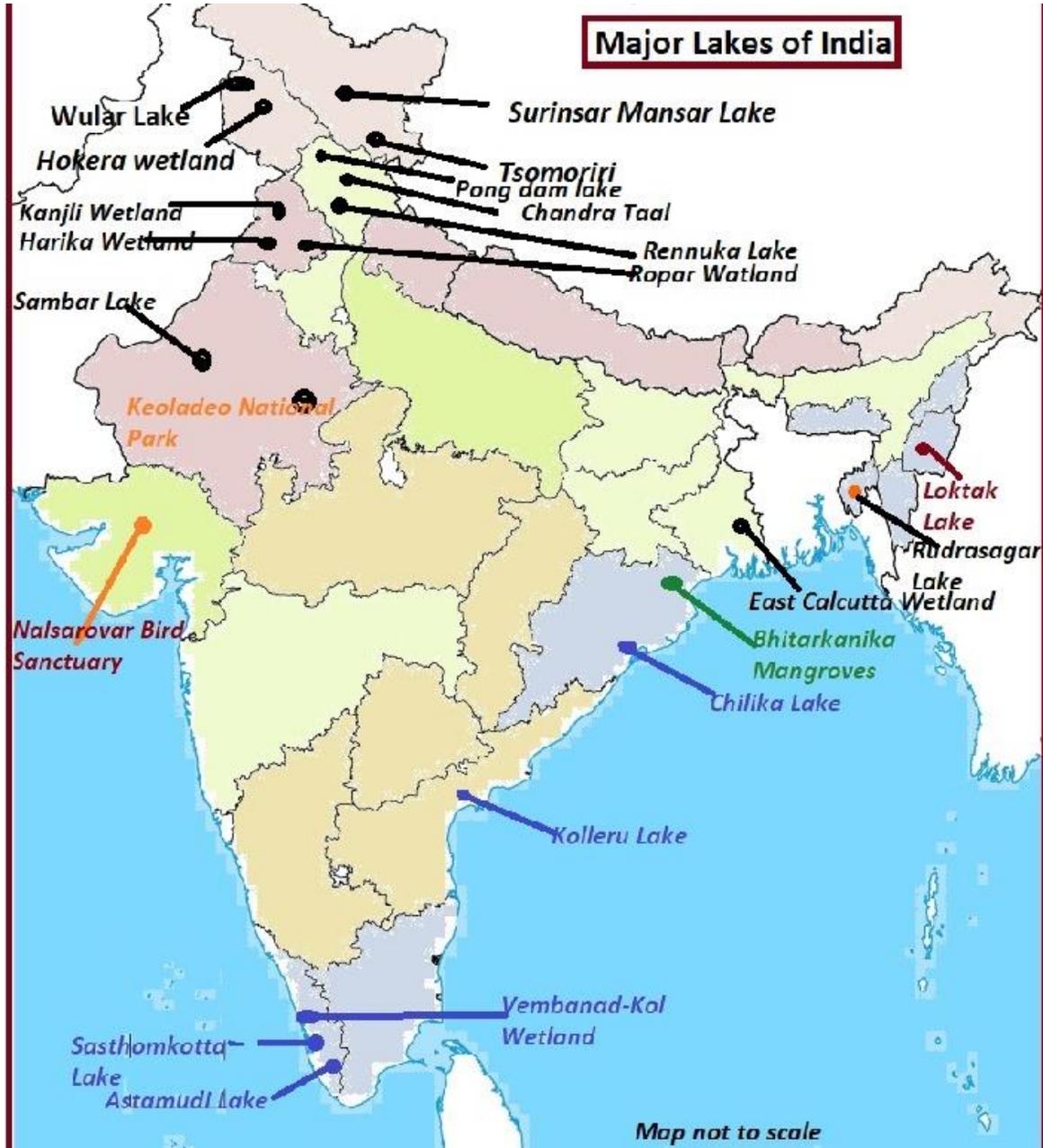
- The syllipsimopodi bideni lived during the **Carboniferous period**, about 328 million years ago. It's the oldest vampyropod ever discovered.
- Vampyropods are a group of cephalopods that includes octopuses and vampire squid.
- The fossil help in understanding of how octopuses evolved.
- **Octopuses are cephalopods, a marine invertebrate group** dating back to roughly 530 million years ago and distinguished by having arms or tentacles. Cephalopods today also include squids, cuttlefishes and nautilus.
- Octopuses are the most intelligent invertebrates, and among the most intelligent animals overall.
- **They are adept at camouflage** - changing colors and even textures to mimic their surroundings - and can maneuver their bodies into tiny cracks and crevices.



Source: Indian Express

4. Chillika Lake

Topic: Environment and Ecology



In News: The Odisha government has proposed to ban movement of mechanised fishing boats in Mangalajodi area on the banks of Chilika lake.

More on the Topic:

- Chilika Lake is a brackish water lagoon, spread over the Puri, Khurda and Ganjam districts of Odisha.
- It is located at the mouth of the Daya River, flowing into the Bay of Bengal.
- It has been listed as a tentative **UNESCO World Heritage site**. It is the largest wintering ground for migratory birds on the Indian sub-continent.

- Birds from as far as the Caspian Sea, Lake Baikal, Aral Sea and other remote parts of Russia, Kirghiz steppes of Kazakhstan, Central and southeast Asia, Ladakh and Himalayas come here.
- In 1981, Chilika Lake was designated the first Indian wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention.
- It is an important bird area as well.

Source: The Hindu

5. UDAN Regional Connectivity Scheme

Topic: Government Schemes

In News: Daily flight between the Indore-Gondia-Hyderabad route under RCS-UDAN scheme was flagged-off.

More on the Topic:

- UDAN is a regional connectivity scheme spearheaded by the Government of India (GoI).
- The full form of UDAN is 'Ude Desh ka Aam Nagarik' and aims to develop smaller regional airports to allow common citizens easier access to aviation services.
- It is an innovative scheme **to develop the regional aviation market**.
- It aims **to create affordable yet economically viable and profitable flights** on regional routes so that flying be-comes affordable to the common man even in small towns.
- This scheme entails making the routes financially viable, through **financial support in the form of Viability Gap Funding**. VGF will be available to flight operators on specific routes for the first 3 years of operation.
- **VGF signifies a grant, one-time or deferred, provided to support infrastructure projects** that are economically justi-fied but fall short of financial viability

Objectives of the Regional Connectivity Scheme:

- Ministry aims to operationalize around 1000 routes and develop more than 100 airports in the next five years
- The Ministry aims to achieve this by focusing on operationalizing routes in the priority areas.
- Boost inclusive economic development by providing faster connectivity
- Development of air transport infrastructure in remote areas aiding job growth





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