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Daily current affairs Feb 19, 2025

1. Parambikulam Tiger Reserve is located in which state?

- [A] Karnataka
- [B] Kerala
- [C] Tamil Nadu
- [D] Maharashtra

Correct Answer: B [Kerala]

A faunal survey by the Forest Department in Parambikulam Tiger Reserve recorded 15 new species. The reserve is located in Kerala's Palakkad and Thrissur districts and covers 391 sq. km. It was declared a Tiger Reserve in 2009 under Project Tiger. The Parambikulam, Sholayar, and Thekkady rivers flow through the reserve, supporting its biodiversity. The reserve is home to four tribal communities—Kadar, Malasar, Muduvar, and Mala Malasar—living in six colonies within the protected area.

2. Javelin anti-tank guided missile has been developed by which country?

- [A] United States (US)
- [B] Russia
- [C] France
- [D] China

Correct Answer: A [United States (US)]

India and the US plan to procure and co-produce Javelin anti-tank guided missiles for India's defense needs. Javelin is a man-portable, fire-and-forget missile designed to destroy heavily armored vehicles. It was developed by US defense companies Raytheon and Lockheed Martin. The missile is effective against main battle tanks, lighter military vehicles, bunkers, fortifications, and helicopters.

3.Which country has been placed under a state of emergency due to an “Earthquake Swarm” in February 2025?

- [A] Japan
- [B] Greece
- [C] Nepal
- [D] India

Correct Answer: B [Greece]

A state of emergency has been declared on Greece's Santorini, Ios, Amorgos, and Anafi due to a swarm of undersea earthquakes. An earthquake swarm occurs when multiple seismic events of similar intensity hit a small area in quick succession. These swarms often involve thousands of low-intensity quakes without a major shock over weeks. They commonly occur in active geothermal regions where seismic energy builds up and is released in small amounts.

4.Sowparnika River, which was seen in news, flows through which state?

- [A] Maharashtra
- [B] Odisha
- [C] Karnataka
- [D] Andhra Pradesh

Correct Answer: C [Karnataka]

Environmentalists have raised concerns over rising pollution in the Sowparnika River near Kollur Mookambika Temple. The river flows westward in Karnataka, originating from the Kodachadri Hills in the Western Ghats. It passes through Byndoor taluk and near the

Mookambika Temple before reaching the Arabian Sea. The river is linked to Hindu mythology, named after Garuda ("Suparna"), who is believed to have performed penance on its banks.

5.What is the primary objective of the PM-AASHA scheme?

- [A] To provide free education in tribal areas
- [B] To promote organic farming
- [C] To improve health infrastructure in rural areas
- [D] To ensure remunerative prices for farmers' produce

Correct Answer: D [To ensure remunerative prices for farmers' produce]

The Centre has extended the Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanraksHan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) scheme until 2025-26 under the 15th Finance Commission cycle. The scheme ensures fair prices for farmers and stabilizes essential commodity prices. Under the Price Support Scheme (PSS), the government procures pulses, oilseeds, and copra at Minimum Support Price (MSP) through Central Nodal Agencies. 100% procurement of Tur (Arhar), Urad, and Masur has been approved for 2024-25 to boost domestic production.

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