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20th September 2019

Topic:- Health

News:-Scrub typhus tightens grip; 6 die, 801test +ve.

Who all are in major risk?

- People working in fields at risk of picking up the infection.

How?

- People go in the wilds for grass-cutting after the rains where they catch the infection following a bite by infected mites present in the grass that feed on rats.

About Scrub Typus:-

- Scrub typhus, also known as bush typhus, is a disease caused by a bacteria called *Orientia tsutsugamushi*.

Scrub typhus is spread to people through bites of infected chiggers (larval mites).

- The most common symptoms of scrub typhus include fever, headache, body aches, and sometimes a rash.

(Source:- The Tribune)

Topic:- Tourism.

News:-Fossil park in Sirmaur to get a makeover.

Context:-Development of the fossil park at Suketi village in Sirmaur district as an ideal tourist destination is soon going to be a reality.

Apart from preserving the park's biodiversity, the plan is to set up camping sites, along with rainwater harvesting facility.

Importance:-

- It will be Asia's first such fossil park – a go-to place for adventure lovers. Speaker Dr Rajeev Bindal, who accompanied the ADB team, said efforts were afoot to give international recognition to the park during the next year's 36th international geological congress in Delhi.

Purpose: -

- The museum was set up to preserve the fossil site and provide scientific information to research scholars.

What we will get in this?

- The park exhibits ensembles of prehistoric vertebrates and skeletal remains of animals in form of sandstones and clay. Fibre-glass models of six-extinct mammals are on display at the museum. Research scholars from across the globe visit the place.

(Source:- The Tribune)

Topic:- Achievement.

News:-Class IX student's science model chosen for Inspire India Award.

About Model:-

- The model uses sensors and sound systems to educate people about the use of dustbins in public places.
- Vinayak said his gadget was a waste bin attached with some electronic equipment and could be placed in a public place. If anybody dropped some waste nearby, the gadget would immediately sense it and start saying 'use me'. "When the person picks up the waste and moves it close to the bucket, it will automatically pop open and

say 'thank you' after the person drops the waste into the container. The equipment is portable and can be moved on tyres to any location.

(Source:- The Tribune)

Topic:- Environment(Wildlife)

News:-Rs130-cr project to save snow leopards.

Context:-With an appreciable increase in the population of highly endangered snow leopard in the Himalayan region, efforts will be stepped up to provide the majestic animal, secure and congenial habitats with the help of a Rs 130 crore.

What is the name of the Project?

- Secure Himalayas project.

Why needed?

- These ecosystems are threatened due to unplanned development, unsustainable land-use practices and growing man-animal conflict. This necessitates the need to conserve the habitats of the snow leopard, which will automatically take care of the rich bio-diversity and unique ecosystem.

In HP:-

- The estimated population of snow leopards in Himachal is over 85. The high altitude belts where they are found include Upper Kinnaur, Pin Valley, Tabo, Tharot-Miyar, Bhaga, Chandra and Upper Spiti and some other areas in Chamba, Kinnaur and Great Himalayan National Park (GHNP) in Kullu.

(Source:- The Tribune)

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QUIZ:-

Question 1:- Which IIT are developing thermoelectric materials that can efficiently convert heat into electricity?

1. IIT Delhi
2. IIT Madras
3. IIT Mumbai
4. IIT Mandi

Question 2:- In which district Great Himalayan National Park (GHNP) located?

1. Mandi
2. Kullu
3. Sirmaur

4. Shimla

Question 3:- What is the name of the project launched to save snow leopards?

1. Secure Leopards
2. Secure Himachal
3. The secure Himalayas
4. Save Leopard.

Answers: -

- Q1: - 4
- Q2: - 2
- Q3: - 3



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