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## *January 29, 2020*

### *Topic: Agricultural Mandis.*

***News:- Punjab Govt.okay for setting up of private mandis.***

- The department of Agriculture and farmers welfare of Punjab has amended the Punjab Agricultural Produce Markets ( General) to allow the setting up of such private mandis.
- A special market yard can also be set up ( in a small enclosure or building) for a particular commodity such as fish, milk etc.
- Private market yards can also be set up ( on a minimum of 10 acres), and a producer and consumer market yard on a minimum one acre.
- The Kisan mandis and e-trading platforms for spot marketing have also been allowed to be set up.

***Conditions for setting up of private mandis:-***

- The owner of the mandi would provide all the

infrastructure, including the basic Sanitation facilities.

- The private entities will have to be owners of the land where they would be setting up the mandis.
- Or they can even take it on a lease for a minimum of 30 years.
- But the Arhtiya Association of Punjab has opposed this move as they fear that the move would reduce their influence in the Agricultural mandis.
- They also fear that the government is moving towards the MSP free regime.
- The government should promote Agricultural diversification and ensure proper procurement through the new mandis being set up by the government.
- Also, the political will and the level of awareness undertaken would reveal the success of this initiative.

(Source:- The Tribune)

## ***Topic: Biodiversity***

***News:-4 wetlands of Punjab witness reduced the number of migratory birds.***

- A survey by forest and wildlife department of Punjab, World Wildlife Fund and some bird watchers have revealed that the numbers of migratory birds arriving in 4 of the state's wetlands have fallen.
- The change in climate pattern has affected the number of winged visitors in the state.
- Due to delayed winters and other factors, the birds' movement from Russia and other cold areas of Asia has

got disturbed.

- The birds mainly arrive from Kazakhstan, Russia and other cold areas between mid-October and December.

***The Bird count is as follows:-***

| Wetland.      | 2019.      | 2020.   |
|---------------|------------|---------|
| Nangal.       | 6113.      | 5631    |
| Ranjit Sagar. | 1631.      | 1529.   |
| Keshopur.     | 23, 023.   | 20883   |
| Harike.       | 1.23 lakh. | 91025 . |

- Harike has witnessed a massive decline of around 25 % ( that is around 32000 ).
- Whereas the wetlands of Ropar and Kanjli have experienced a slight increase in the numbers of the migratory birds.

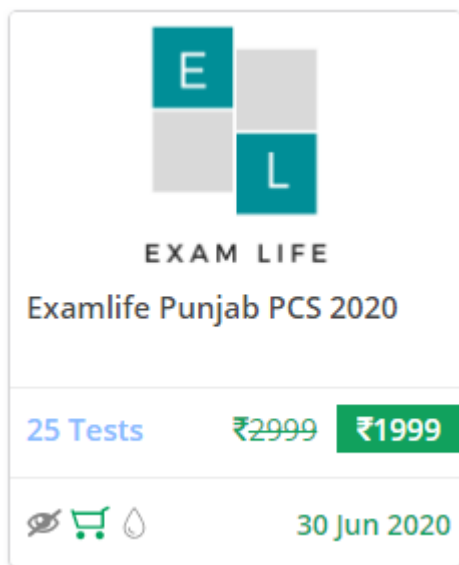
(Source:- The Tribune)

***Please visit Regular Quiz Section for important questions.***

***Punjab PCS —> See Second (Regular Quiz)***

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