



Ganga Dolphins

Why in News

In the program organized by Bhagalpur Forest Division on the **Ganges River Dolphin Day**, Union Minister Ashwini Kumar Choubey announced the conduct of the Galactic Dolphin Census.

Key Points

- The Union Minister said that **Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary** would be developed into a world-class tourist destination and a **Dolphin Conservation Force** would be formed to carry out the conservation and promotion work of dolphins.
- It is noteworthy that **from Sultanganj to Kahalgaon**, about 60 km, has been declared a **'Gangetic River Dolphin Protected Area'**.
- The dolphin census will be done with the participation of scientists, experts from forest departments, NGOs and local people.
- It is known that the Gangetic Dolphin was declared a **'National Aquatic Animal'** by the Government of India **in 2009** and it is listed as Endangered in the IUCN Red List.

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