



Important Facts for Prelims (1st January 2019)

Cinereous Vulture //



- Recently the **Cinereous vulture** was spotted in Jharkhand, as they **migrate from the mountainous regions of Europe and Asia** to warmer places, including India.
- While earlier records of this migratory bird have revealed that it comes to northern parts of India up to Rajasthan, but this is for the **first time they have been spotted in Hazaribagh in Jharkhand**.
- The Cinereous vulture (*Aegypius monachus*) draws its name from **“monachus”**, which means **hooded (like a monk) in Latin**.
- In many countries, this bird is called **‘monk vulture’**, because of its upright standing neck feathers that resemble the hood of a monk.
- It is a **dark brown and broad-winged species** with a slightly wedge-shaped tail. The bald head and neck are a bluish gray, with a fluffy collar which is lighter in older birds.
- It is classified as **Near Threatened** under the **IUCN Red List**.
- India is home to **nine species of vultures** and with the population of these birds dwindling, the country has launched a **species-recovery plan** through conservation breeding centres in different parts of the country.

Parivesh Portal

- **Gujarat government and other states** have decided to operationalise **‘Parivesh’ (Pro-Active and Responsive Facilitation by Interactive, Virtuous and Environmental Single-window Hub)** portal by January 15.
- PARIVESH is a **web-based, application which has been developed for online submission and monitoring of the proposals submitted by the proponents for seeking Environment, Forest, Wildlife and Coastal Regulation Zones (CRZ) Clearances from Central, State and district level authorities**.
- It automates the entire tracking of proposals which includes online submission of a new proposal, editing/updating the details of proposals and displays status of the proposals at each stage of the

workflow.

- This portal is developed under '**Digital India**' initiative by the **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC)**.

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