



## Rapid Fire Current Affairs

### Gambusia Fish Release for Mosquito Control in Andhra Pradesh



The Andhra Pradesh government's recent release of approximately **10 million Gambusia fish**, also known as **mosquitofish**, into the state's water bodies to **combat mosquito-borne diseases** has sparked concerns about potential harm to native species and ecosystem balance. The **Gambusia fish, native to the southeastern United States**, can consume 100 to 300 mosquito larvae per day.

While the fish is widely used as a **biological agent to control mosquito larvae**, its **introduction as an invasive alien species** raises questions about its effectiveness and unintended consequences.

**International Union for Conservation of Nature** declare **Gambusia one of the 100 worst invasive alien species in the world**. Multiple countries, including India have also listed Gambusia as invasive species.

However, the fish continues to be a prominent part of the country's malaria control program and the fish continue to be released into freshwater bodies across the country, like **Andhra Pradesh, Chandigarh and Uttar Pradesh**.

**Read more:** [International Union for Conservation of Nature](#), [Invasive alien species](#)

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### Tribute to Nawab Wajid Ali Shah, the Last King of Awadh



**Kolkata** is all set to celebrate the **bicentenary year of Nawab Wajid Ali Shah**, the last king of **Awadh** who was **deposed by the British and exiled to Metiabruz**, a suburb of Kolkata, where he spent his final years.

Nawab Wajid Ali Shah was a fine connoisseur of **art, music, dance, poetry and cuisine**, and he **supported many artists and performers in his court**. Although Wajid Ali Shah's pen-name was "**Qaisar**", he used pseudonym "**Akhtarpiya**" for his numerous compositions.

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### CRCS-Sahara Refund Portal

The Ministry of Cooperation inaugurated the '**CRCS-Sahara Refund Portal**' in New Delhi, marking a significant step towards addressing the grievances of depositors of the **Sahara Group of Cooperative Societies**. This dedicated portal aims to streamline the **disbursement process of Rs. 5000 Crores**, transferred from the "**Sahara-SEBI Refund Account**" to the **Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies (CRCS)**, as directed by the **Supreme Court**. Genuine depositors can now conveniently submit their claims through this online platform.

Cooperatives are governed by state jurisdictions, those operating across multiple states are registered under the **Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act (MSCS) of 2002**, with administrative and financial control under the central registrar.

**Read more:** [Cooperative Societies](#)

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### Russia's Halting of Black Sea Grain Initiative Impacts Global Food Security

The recent **halt in the Black Sea Grain Initiative** by **Russia** has raised concerns over **global food security**. This breakthrough accord, brokered by the **United Nations** and **Turkey in July 2022**, allowed **Ukraine to ship grain to countries in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia**. However, Russia's decision to suspend the deal has disrupted the **flow of essential food supplies**, particularly in regions where hunger is a **growing threat and high food prices** have already pushed more people into poverty.

**Read more:** [Black Sea Grain Initiative](#)