

## 1. Plethora 2 (PLT 2)

### Why in News?

- ▶ Researchers from IISER have discovered a protein that regenerates primary and lateral roots of the plants.

### About:

- ▶ Regeneration is a process that a part restores the original position after it is being broken or sliced off. Plethora 2 is a protein which helps to regenerate the primary and lateral roots of the plants. This discovery ensures the quick repair of the plants which is damaged either by high wind or rain.
- ▶ However, excess dosage of this protein beyond the threshold level reduces the regeneration potential.

## 2. Railway Board

### Why in News?

- ▶ Indian Railways have recently decided to reduce the Railway Board members by 25%.

### About:

- ▶ The Railway Board is the apex body of the Indian Railways that reports to the Parliament of India through the Ministry of Railways headed by the Railway Minister of India.
- ▶ Currently Railway Board has 200 officials including the Chairman, Officers and Directors.
- ▶ Now the board will be reduced to 150 members by transferring the other 50 members to the Zonal Railways to enhance efficiency. It is also to be noted that **Bibek Debroy Committee** on Indian Railways in 2015 has also recommended the restructuring of the Railway Board to improve the efficiency.

## 3. Bhashan Char Island

### Why in News?

- ▶ Rohingyas living in Bangladesh refugee camps have agreed to move to the Bhashan Char Island in the Bay of Bengal.

### About:

- ▶ **Bhashan Char** or **Thengar Char** is an island under the jurisdiction of Bangladesh which emerged only 2 decades before in the Bay of Bengal.
- ▶ It is prone to flooding and could not withstand the violent storms during the annual monsoon season.

- ▶▶ In the past half a century, powerful cyclones have killed thousands of people in the Meghna river estuary where the island is located.
- ▶▶ In spite of repeated warnings by the Rights groups, refugees of Rohingyas have finally agreed to being shifted to the flood prone island.

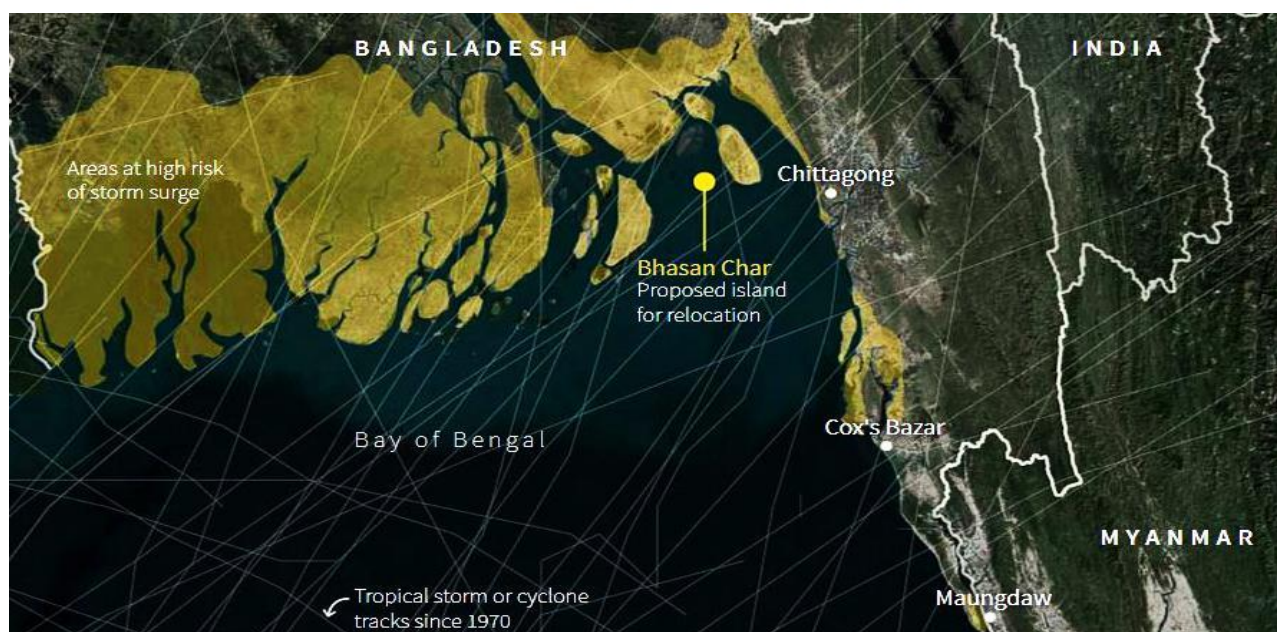
## **4. Anthrax**

### **Why in News?**

- ▶▶ Veterinarians in Central Assam's Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary have confirmed that Anthrax is the cause for the death of the 2 Asian Water Buffaloes.

### **About:**

- ▶▶ Anthrax is a serious infectious zoonotic disease caused by a bacterium known as *Bacillus anthracis*.
- ▶▶ *Bacillus anthracis* is a gram-positive, rod-shaped bacterium that mainly affects the livestock. Although it is rare, people can get sick with anthrax if they come in contact with infected animals or contaminated animal products.
- ▶▶ It can occur in four forms: skin, lungs, intestinal, and injection.
- ▶▶ Two months of antibiotics such as **ciprofloxacin**, **levofloxacin**, and **doxycycline** after exposure can prevent infection.
- ▶▶ Anthrax vaccination is recommended for people who are at high risk of infection.



## **5. IMNEX - 2019:**

- ▶▶ The second edition of 'India Myanmar Naval Exercise' IMNEX-2019 was conducted onboard INS Ranvijay.
- ▶▶ During the event, INS Ranvijay, a guided-missile destroyer and INS Kuthar, a missile corvette will be carrying out a joint exercise with Myanmar ships.
- ▶▶ Other exercise with Myanmar is, IMBAX - is India Myanmar Bilateral Army Exercise.

## **6. Col. Chewang Rinchen Setu:**

- ▶▶ Border Roads Organization built Chewang Rinchen Setu in the Ladakh region.
- ▶▶ It has been built at an altitude of 14650 feet.
- ▶▶ Colonel Chewang Rinchen (1931 – 1997) was a highly decorated officer in the Indian Army from the Ladakh region. He was one of only six Indian service personnel to have twice won the Maha Vir Chakra (MVC), the second highest Indian gallantry decoration.
- ▶▶ Border Roads Organization is under Ministry of Defense. It develops and maintains road networks in India's border areas and friendly neighboring countries.

## **7. Lira:**

- ▶▶ With Turkey's military campaign in Syria, its currency Lira is under spotlight.
- ▶▶ Lira is the currency of Turkey and self-declared Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.
- ▶▶ Military campaign in Syria could invite sanctions on Turkey which in turn would affect currency and the economy of Turkey.
- ▶▶ Last year, a standoff with the United States was an aggravating factor in a 30% fall in the lira, prompting an economic recession in the country which is heavily dependent on imports as well as foreign investors flows.