



## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – MAY 13, 2026

### NATIONAL

#### Binsar Wildlife Sanctuary

- The forest department has begun preparations for a scientific wildlife census in Binsar Wildlife Sanctuary to assess the population and movement of key species, including tigers, leopards, bears, deer, and foxes.
- It is situated in the Kumaon region of the Himalayas, in the Almora district of Uttarakhand.
- It is perched at an altitude ranging from 900 to 2,500 meters.
- From Zero Point, also known as Jhandi Dhaar, which is the highest point in the sanctuary, the Himalayan peaks of Kedarnath, Chaukhamba, Shivling, Trisul, and Nanda Devi, are visible among many others.
- Apart from protecting wildlife, the sanctuary was established with an aim to conserve the broadleaf oak forests, mainly located in the Central Himalayan region.
- Flora:
  - It is covered by oak and rhododendron forests at higher altitudes and by chir pine forests at a lower height.
- Fauna:
  - It is home to Barking Deer, Himalayan bear, leopard, fox, musk deer, langur, porcupine, flying squirrel, chital, jungle cat, etc.
  - It has been declared an Important Bird Area by Bird Life International, as there are more than 200 species of birds in the sanctuary, including Fork

tail, Blackbirds, Laughing Thrush, Pheasant, Nuthatches, Parakeets, and Monal.

## AWARDS

### National Florence Nightingale Award

- Recently, the President of India conferred the National Florence Nightingale Awards for the year 2026.
- About National Florence Nightingale Award
- Florence Nightingale was an English social reformer, statistician and the founder of modern nursing.
- It was instituted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India in the year 1973.
- It is a prestigious award given to outstanding nursing personnel employed in Central, State/UTs and Voluntary Organizations.
- It honours the dedication, compassion, and resilience of the nursing profession.
- These prestigious awards are presented to Registered Nurses, Midwives, Auxiliary Nurse Midwives, and Lady Health Visitors serving across Central and State Governments, Union Territories, and voluntary organizations.
- Award: Each award includes a Certificate of Merit, a cash prize of ₹1,00,000, and a medal.

## SCHEMES

### National Social Assistance Programme

- Recent assessment of the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) has found that the Centre's fixed monthly pension support for elderly citizens, widows, and persons with disabilities has sharply declined in real value over the last decade due to inflation.
- It is a fully funded Centrally Sponsored Scheme launched in 1995.

- It extends financial support to individuals living below the poverty line (BPL).
- It is a key social welfare scheme that provides pensions to vulnerable groups, including the elderly, widows, and persons with disabilities.
- Nodal Ministry: It is implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development.
- NSAP covers Five schemes
  - Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS): Under IGNOAPS, the Centre provides financial assistance of Rs 200 per month to individuals aged 60–79 years and Rs 500 per month to those aged 80 and above.
  - Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS): Under IGNWPS, the Centre provides Rs 300 per month to widows aged 40–79 years and Rs 500 to those 80 and above.
  - Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS): Financial assistance of Rs 300 per month is provided to individuals with severe or multiple disabilities aged 18–79, and Rs 500 to those aged 80 years and above.
  - National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS): Under this the amount of one-time financial assistance is fixed at Rs 20,000. This is provided to families after the death of a primary breadwinner aged 18 to 59.
  - Annapurna Scheme: Under this component 10 kg of food grains per month, free of cost, are provided to those senior citizens who, though eligible, were not receiving old-age pension.

