# CURRENT AFFAIRS

31 OCTOBER 2022





#### **TOPIC: CITIZENSHIP**

### CAA is a benign piece of legislation, Home Ministry tells SC

Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) of 2019

- ✓The CAA fast-tracks the citizenship- by-naturalisation process for "illegal migrants" from six religious communities, other than Muslims, who have fled persecution from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan
- ✓The government had maintained that the amendments made to the Citizenship Act of 1955 was meant to protect and welcome religiously persecuted people fleeing the three neighbouring countries where Muslims form the majority.

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- ✓The petitions have argued that the law welcomes "illegal migrants" into India selectively on the basis of their religion and pointedly excludes Muslims.
- ✓ It has an "unholy nexus" with the National Register of Citizens (NRC) exercise and is against principles of secularism, right to equality and dignity of life enshrined in the Constitution, the petitions said.
- ✓ While Muslim migrants would have to show their proof of residency in India for at least 11 years, the law allows illegal migrants from the six communities to be naturalised in five years' time.

#### **TOPIC: NATIONAL SYMBOL**

## 'Dolphins return to the Ganga in U.P.'

#### The Hindu Bureau

LUCKNOW

Dolphins have started coming back to the Ganga with improvement in the quality of the river water made possible by the Namami Gange programme, the Uttar Pradesh government said on Sunday. The

government said that with the completion of 23 projects under the programme started in 2014, the State had stopped the flow of more than 460 MLD (million litres a day) of sewage into the Ganga.

"Under the programme, additional treatment capacity of about 33 MLD will also be created between September 2022 and December 2022 in Jhansi, Kanpur, Unnao, Shuklaganj, Sultanpur Budhana, Jaunpur and Baghpat at the cost of ₹2304.55 crore," the government said.

Dolphins have been breeding in Brijghat, Narora, Kanpur, Mirzapur and Varanasi, which is likely to increase their number. The present dolphin population in the Ganga in the State is estimated at 600.



Read | The day of the dolphin bit.ly/3SSe4tT

#### Ganga Dolphin.

- ✓The Ganges River Dolphin or also called 'Susu,' is the National Aquatic Animal of India.
- ✓ It is one of the National Symbols of India.
- ✓ Gangetic Dolphins are found in the river systems of Ganga, Brahmaputra, Meghna, and Karnaphuli- Sangu in Nepal, India, and Bangladesh.
- ✓The reason to declare Ganges River Dolphin as the National Aquatic Animal of India was to save it from extinction.
- ✓ Also, the Ganges Dolphin is seen as the reflector of the health of the Ganga River. The declaration was made in 2009 in the National Ganga River Basin Authority's (NGRBA) first meeting.

- ✓ Ganges River Dolphin is found only in freshwater
- ✓ As the name goes, the Ganges Dolphin are endemic to the river Ganga







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