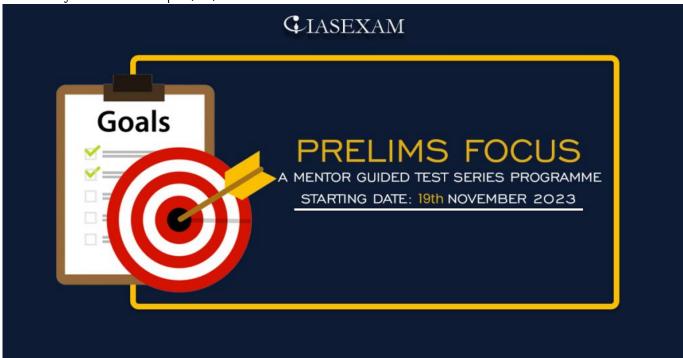
# Prelims Focus - 18th March 2024

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## 1.Darien Gap

In News: Darien Gap has become a major route for illegal migration to the US.

- The Darien Gap is a stretch of densely forested area across northern Colombia located in South America and southern Panama situated in North America.
- Roughly 60 miles (97 kilometres) across, the terrain is muddy, wet and volatile.
- The hard topography of humid, swampy rainforest as well as criminal gangs who control the location, make the route a very tough and deadly one.

#### 2. Nausena Bhawan

**In News:** The Defence Minister has recently inaugurated the 'Nausena Bhawan', the new state-of-the-art headquarters of the Indian Navy at the Delhi Cantonment.

- It establishes the Navy's first impartial headquarters in Delhi. Previously, the Navy operated from 13 different locations, making it difficult to coordinate.
- It is a centralised and technologically advanced headquarter that displays the state's dedication to maritime excellence and national security.
- The Building incorporates 3 wings and 4 stories, incorporates innovative construction technologies to optimise efficiency and sustainability.

#### 3. Pandavula Gutta

**In News:** It, a geological marvel older than the Himalayan hills, has been officially recognised as the sole Geo-heritage site in Telangana.

- They are older than the Himalayas, well-known for ancient rock art work which depict animals like bison, antelope, tiger, and leopard, at the side of geometric designs and logos like swastikas, circles, and squares.
- The presence of those paintings shows the place was inhabited from the Mesolithic period (around 12,000 to 6,000 BCE) up to medieval times.

### 4. Model Code of Conduct (MCC)

**In News:** The Election Commission of India has recently announced the dates for the upcoming Lok Sabha Election and it has officially put in place the model code of conduct (MCC).

- It was first introduced in the 1960 Assembly elections in Kerala. In 1991, T.N. Seshan first codified the MCC.
- It is a set of recommendations issued through the Election Commission to regulate the campaigning of political events and applicants for the duration of elections.
- Its most important purpose is to promote free and fair elections by stopping any activities that could influence the electorate or disrupt the poll system.