D28 Iceberg

March 31, 2020 Why in news?

■ D28 iceberg recently broke off from the Amery ice shelf of Antarctica.

About the iceberg:

- The calved block covers 1,636 sq. km in area and is called D28.
- Approximately 30 km wide and 60 km long, and with a thickness exceeding 200 m, the iceberg is estimated to contain over 300 billion tones' of ice.
- In the 1960s Amery had calved a bigger iceberg which was a whopping 9,000 sq. km in area.
- Amery is the third largest ice shelf in Antarctica, and is a key drainage channel for the east of the continent.
- Scientists have found that the event is not related to climate change as **Iceberg production is part of the normal cycle of ice shelves**, which are an extension of the ice cap.