

Kaiser-i-Hind butterfly

November 16, 2021

In news– Recently, the state government of Arunachal Pradesh approved the Kaiser-i-Hind as the State butterfly.

About the butterfly–

- Kaiser-i-Hind literally **means Emperor of India.**
- This **swallowtail butterfly with a 90-120 mm wingspan is found in six States along the Eastern Himalayas** at elevations from 6,000-10,000 feet in well-wooded terrain.
- Its **scientific name is Teinopalpus imperialis.**
- It also flutters in Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar, Laos, Vietnam and southern China.
- It usually flies at tree-top level and descends to sit on low vegetation when there is strong morning sunlight.
- It is in flight during April-July and lays eggs on the underside of leaves.
- The government's move is **aimed at boosting butterfly tourism and saving the species from extinction in the State.**
- Although the Kaiser-i-Hind is **protected under Schedule II of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**, it is hunted for supply to butterfly collectors.
- The two species of Kaiser-i-Hind were listed in **CITES Appendix II from 1987 onwards.**
- It is listed as **Near threatened** under the IUCN list.
- **The state government also adopted the Pakke Tiger Reserve 2047 Declaration on Climate Change-Resilient and Responsive Arunachal Pradesh.**
- This Declaration aims to fulfil its goal of lowering emissions and achievement of sustainable development.

Other states with state butterfly–

- Maharashtra-*Blue Mormon* (first state in the country to announce).
- Uttarakhand-*Common peacock*.
- Tamil Nadu-*Tamil Yeoman* (*Cirrochroa thais*), it is locally known as Tamil Maravan meaning 'Tamilian Warrior'.
- Karnataka-*Southern birdwings*.
- Kerala-*Malabar banded peacock*