



# Sangai Festival

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## Why in News?

The **annual Sangai Festival** began in Manipur (21–30 November) despite ongoing protests and socio-political tensions in the State.

## About Sangai Festival

**Type:** Annual 10-day cultural festival of Manipur.

**Held:** Every year from **21–30 November**.

**Named After:** **Sangai deer** (brow-antlered deer), the State animal of Manipur.

## About Sangai Deer (Brow-Antlered Deer)

**Scientific Name:** *Rucervus eldii eldii*.

**IUCN Status:** **Endangered**.

**Habitat:** Found exclusively in the **Keibul Lamjao National Park (KLNP)**, Manipur.

## Special Feature:

o KLNP is the **world's only floating national park**.

o The deer inhabits **phumdis**—floating biomass on **Loktak Lake**, Manipur.

## Key Features of the Festival

Showcases Manipur's rich cultural heritage through:

o Traditional dance and music

o Handloom and handicraft exhibitions

o Indigenous cuisines

o Eco-tourism events and adventure activities

Aims to promote **tourism, community participation, and conservation awareness** for the Sangai deer