Etor Gidi Festival

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Why in the News?

The Adi community of Arunachal Pradesh is celebrating Etor Gidi, a major agro-based traditional festival that marks the beginning of the farming season in mid-May.

Etor Gidi Festival

- **Importance-** It is an indigenous agricultural festival celebrated to seek blessings for a prosperous farming season, abundant harvests, good health, and the general well-being of the village households.
- **Core Ritual (Fencing) -** A central aspect of the festival involves community members coming together to repair and strengthen fences around their agricultural fields.
- This practice highlights collective labor, community cooperation, and shared responsibility.
- **Cultural Performances -** The festival is marked by the performance of the traditional Delong dance by the community members.
- **Venue -** The celebrations and communal gatherings take place at the Dere or Musup, which serves as the traditional village community hall or youth dormitory among the Adi people.

Adi Tribe

- **Who they are -** The Adi are one of the most populous indigenous tribal groups in Arunachal Pradesh, inhabiting the fertile hill regions of the central Himalayas.
- **Etymology -** The word *Adi* literally translates to "hill" or "mountain top".
- **Sub-tribes -** The community is divided into various sub-tribes such as the Padam, Minyong, Pasi, Shimong, and Bori, among others.
- **Social Structure -** They follow a highly organized democratic village council system called the Kebang, which manages local judicial, administrative, and developmental affairs.
- **Other Major Festivals -** Apart from Etor Gidi, the Adi community is well-known for celebrating Solung (an agricultural festival in September) and Aran (a hunting festival in March).