Cobra Lily

- The incredibly rare Arisaema translucens, more commonly known as the cobra lily, was recently rediscovered in the western Nilgiris after 84 years.
- They can be found only in a small area measuring less than 10 square kilometres in the Nilgiris.
- The **Toda tribals of the Nilgiris**, who know the plant well, have an embroidery motif known as the ‘podwarshk’, which resembles it.
- The indigenous community could **predict the early arrival of monsoon from the blooming of the cobra lily’s ‘translucens’**.
- Prized for their beauty around the world, cobra lilies are at even greater risk of extinction from the commercial trade in exotic plants.