

August - 06

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ World Ranger Day is celebrated worldwide on July 31st to commemorate Rangers killed or injured in the line of duty.
- ❖ V. O. Chidambaranar (VOC) Port in Thoothukudi has become the first Indian port to successfully produce green hydrogen and achieve over 1 MW of rooftop power generation.

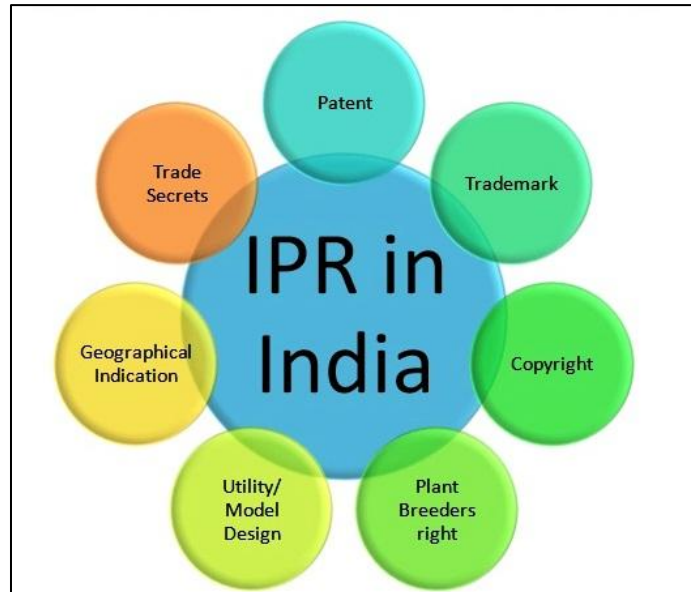
TAMIL NADU NEWS

TN Rising



- ❖ Tamil Nadu has announced the launch of a new series of Regional Investment Conclaves—TN Rising.
- ❖ The inaugural conclave will be hosted in Thoothukudi.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu attracts Rs 32,553.85 crore investment here.
- ❖ The Regional Investment Conclaves called 'TN Rising' are an opportunity for us to show the world that Tamil Nadu is further on the rise as a global industrial powerhouse.
- ❖ It is designed to catalyse growth in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities.
- ❖ It is a part of its long-term vision of becoming a \$1 trillion economy.
- ❖ It will be focusing on the very balanced regional development and the sustainable industrialisation.

836 IPR (Intellectual Property Rights) applications



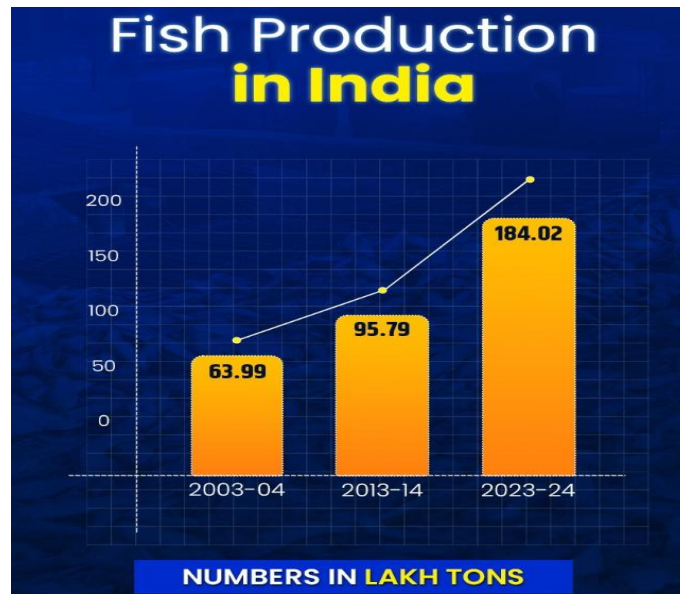
- ❖ Seven Patent Information Centres (PIC) attached to educational institutions in the State were recognised by the Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology (TNSCST).
- ❖ The IPR cells in Periyar University, Salem; Mother Teresa Women's University, Kodaikanal; Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore; Hindustan Institute of Technology and Science, Chennai; Nehru Group of Institutions, Coimbatore; K.S. Rangasamy College of Technology, Tiruchengode; and Madurai Kamaraj University were honoured by the Council
- ❖ Five applications have also been filed at different IPR cells for the Geographical Indication (GI) registration.
- ❖ They are the Vandavasi Korai Paai (mat woven with split culm of a grass) filed at the IPR cell in Mother Teresa Women's University, Kollimalai Palappazham (jackfruit) and Kollimalai coffee at the K.S. Rangasamy College of Technology, Pollachi Thennai Naar (coconut coir) at the Nehru Group of Institutions and the Mugavai Kuliyaichan Sivappu Arisi (reddish brown rice variety) at the Mohamed Sathak Engineering College, Kilakarai.

NATIONAL NEWS

Global Fish Production - India at second rank

- ❖ India is the second largest fish producing country after China.
- ❖ India has around 8% share in global fish production.
- ❖ India's Inland fish production constitutes about 75% of the total fish production.

- ❖ Inland sector is by and large fully in the domain of State Governments.
- ❖ Marine sector is a shared responsibility between the Central and Coastal State Governments.
- ❖ Fisheries constitute about 1.12 percent of the total national Gross Value Added (GVA)
- ❖ And it has 7.26 percent of agricultural GVA.
- ❖ India's marine fish catch dips two per cent in 2024 to 3.47 million tonnes.
- ❖ It was given by the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Kochi.
- ❖ Gujarat landed the most fish for the year at 754,000 tonnes.
- ❖ It is followed by Tamil Nadu with 679,000 tonnes and Kerala with 610,000 tonnes.



- ❖ Indian mackerel topped the catch list at 263,000 tonnes, followed by oil sardine at 241,000 tonnes.
- ❖ While the west coast region suffered an overall decrease in landings, the east coast showed an increasing trend, with exceptions in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ Maharashtra has registered the highest growth of 47 per cent compared to the previous year.
- ❖ West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Odisha also saw notable increases of 35 per cent, 20 per cent and 18 per cent respectively.
- ❖ Cyclonic storms such as Dana, Fengal, Remal, and Asna significantly impacted fishing activities.

- ❖ Increased heatwave days in Andhra Pradesh and Kerala further disrupted fishing operations.
- ❖ Andhra Pradesh is the largest marine fish-producing state in India.
- ❖ Gujarat is the second-largest marine fish-producing state in the country.
- ❖ Andhra Pradesh is also the largest inland fish producing state in India.
- ❖ It is followed by West Bengal.

Organ Donations in India 2024



- ❖ India achieves 18,900 organ transplants in 2024.
- ❖ It ranks third highest globally in the total organ transplantation, behind only the United States of America and China.
- ❖ India is first in living donor organ transplantation.
- ❖ India now leads the world in hand transplants.
- ❖ India observes Organ Donation Month every July under the “Angdaan – Jeevan Sanjeevani Abhiyan”.
- ❖ India faces a low deceased organ donation rate of less than 1 per the million population.
- ❖ Spain has 48 per million population.
- ❖ Organ donation and transplantation is regulated by Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act 1994.
- ❖ It was amended in 2011.

- ❖ It was introduced by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu tops nation in cadaveric organ donations for 2024
- ❖ The Union government has recognised Tamil Nadu with a national award for recording 268 cadaveric organ donations in 2024.
- ❖ It was with 146 donors from government hospitals and 122 from private hospitals.
- ❖ It is the highest in the country.
- ❖ The tally is the state's highest annual total since the launch of its deceased donor programme in 2008.
- ❖ Puducherry was the Best Union Territory in organ donation in 2024.
- ❖ Telangana was recognized for having the highest deceased organ donation rate.

71st National Film Awards 2023



- ❖ 12th Fail won the Best Feature Film award at the 71st National Film Awards announced in Delhi.
- ❖ Flowering Man was awarded the Best Non-Feature Film, while God Vulture and Human received the Best Documentary award.
- ❖ Shah Rukh Khan for Jawan and Vikrant Massey for 12th Fail were jointly awarded Best Actor in a Leading Role.
- ❖ Rani Mukerji won Best Actress in a Leading Role for her performance in Mrs Chatterjee Versus Norway.
- ❖ Vijayaraghavan and Muthupettai Somu Bhaskar received the Best Supporting Actor award.

- ❖ Urvashi and Janki Bodiwala were honoured with the Best Supporting Actress award.
- ❖ Hanu Man was named Best Film in the Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming and Comic (AVGC) category.
- ❖ Giddh The Scavenger received the award for Best Short Film.
- ❖ Tamil Movie 'Parking' has won three awards - Best Actor in Supporting Role, Best Screenplay and Best Tamil Film category.
- ❖ G V Prakash Kumar won the Best Music Director (Songs) category.
- ❖ He already won nation award for Soorairai Pottru movie in 2020.

INS Himgiri 2025



- ❖ The Indian Navy has received the advanced guided missile frigate INS Himgiri in Kolkata.
- ❖ Himgiri is the third ship of Project 17A and the first of its class built by GRSE, designed by the Warship Design Bureau (WDB).
- ❖ The ship is equipped with the BrahMos cruise missiles and Barak 8 air defence missiles with capabilities for air surface and submarine warfare.
- ❖ Himgiri revives the name of the earlier INS Himgiri, a Leander-class frigate decommissioned in May 2025 after 30 years of service.

Kavach 4.0

- ❖ Indian Railways has commissioned the Kavach 4.0 safety system on the Mathura to Kota section of the Delhi to Mumbai route.
- ❖ Kavach 4.0 is an indigenously developed Automatic Train Protection System approved by the Research Designs and Standards Organisation (RDSO).
- ❖ The system is designed at Safety Integrity Level 4 (SIL 4), which is the highest global safety standard in rail operations.
- ❖ Kavach 4.0 enables automatic braking and signal visibility inside the loco cab even during low visibility conditions.



Institutes recognized under NCMM



- ❖ The Ministry of Mines (MoM) has recognised the seven institutes as Centres of Excellence (CoE) under the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM).

- ❖ The CoEs include four Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and three Research and Development (R&D) laboratories.
- ❖ The recognised institutes are IIT Bombay, IIT Hyderabad, Indian Institute of Technology Indian School of Mines Dhanbad, IIT Roorkee, CSIR - IMMT Bhubaneswar, CSIR NML Jamshedpur, and NFTDC Hyderabad.
- ❖ These CoEs will conduct the innovative and transformational research to advance India's capabilities in the critical minerals essential for the clean energy, mobility transition, electronics, defence, and space sectors.

Textile parks under PM Mitra



- ❖ Prime Minister Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM Mitra) scheme will establish seven textile parks across India.
- ❖ The parks aim to create three lakh jobs each and boost exports and investments in the textile sector.
- ❖ Selected locations are Virudhnagar in Tamil Nadu, Navsari in Gujarat, Kalaburagi in Karnataka, Dhar in Madhya Pradesh, Lucknow in Uttar Pradesh, Warangal in Telangana and Amravati in Maharashtra.
- ❖ Five parks are the Greenfield projects built on new, undeveloped land, and two are Brownfield projects on repurposed industrial land.
- ❖ Each park will include the research centres, testing labs and training hubs to upgrade worker skills in modern textile practices.
- ❖ The PM MITRA (Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel) Parks scheme was launched in October 2021.

Sanchar Mitra Scheme expansion

- ❖ The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has scaled up the Sanchar Mitra Scheme from a pilot to a national programme.
- ❖ Student volunteers called Sanchar Mitras will raise awareness on digital safety, cyber fraud, electromagnetic radiation and responsible mobile usage.
- ❖ The Volunteers will be trained by National Communications Academy Technology (NCAT) and the Media Wing of DoT in the advanced telecom fields like fifth-generation, generation artificial intelligence and cyber security.

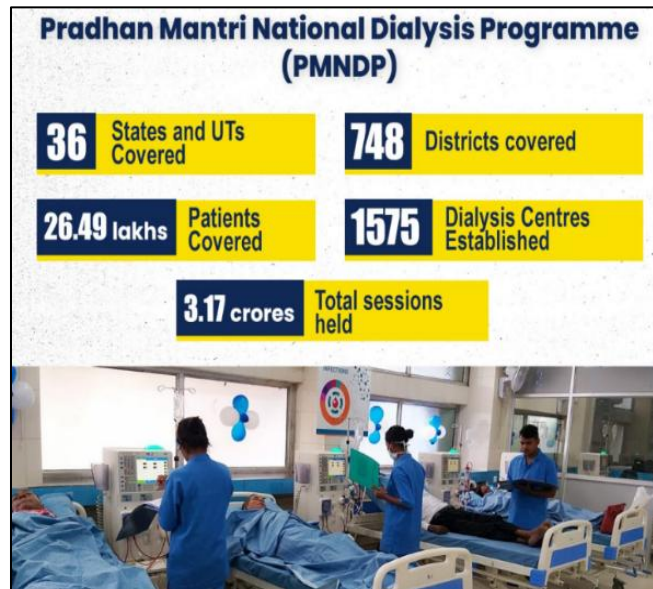


Apna Ghar initiative

- ❖ The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas launched the Apna Ghar initiative to provide safe and hygienic resting spaces for truck drivers on highways.
- ❖ Three hundred sixty-eight resting centres have been built by the government oil companies.
- ❖ Facilities include dormitories, clean toilets, bathing areas, restaurants, cooking zones and purified drinking water.
- ❖ The scheme aims to improve the driver welfare and support the better highway infrastructure as part of national logistics efforts.



PM National Dialysis Program expansion



- ❖ The Government of India has expanded the Pradhan Mantri National Dialysis Programme (PMNDP).
- ❖ Now it covers 751 districts across all 36 States and Union Territories.
- ❖ As of June 30, a total of 1,704 dialysis centres are functional under the programme.

- ❖ PMNDP provides free dialysis services to patients with end-stage kidney failure through haemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis.
- ❖ The Pradhan Mantri National Dialysis Programme (PMNDP) was launched in 2016 as part of the National Health Mission (NHM).

AI-Powered Agromet Advisory

- ❖ The International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) of Hyderabad launched an AI-powered climate advisory for small farmers.
- ❖ The project is called AI-powered Context-Specific Agro-Meteorological Advisory Services for Climate-Resilient Agriculture at Scale.
- ❖ It is supported by the Government of India's Monsoon Mission III.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

New digital Schengen visa system

- ❖ The European Union (EU) will replace the traditional Schengen visa sticker with a secure digital barcode called a two-dimensional (2D) barcode.
- ❖ Indian travellers can apply fully online by uploading documents, paying visa fees, tracking status and receiving a digitally signed visa.
- ❖ Biometrics submission will be required in person only for first-time applicants, but frequent travellers will benefit from faster processing.

- ❖ The Entry Exit System (EES) using fingerprint and facial recognition will replace passport stamps starting October 2025.
- ❖ The European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) for visa-exempt travellers will launch by 2026.

Digitalization of the Schengen Visa

How will the application process change?

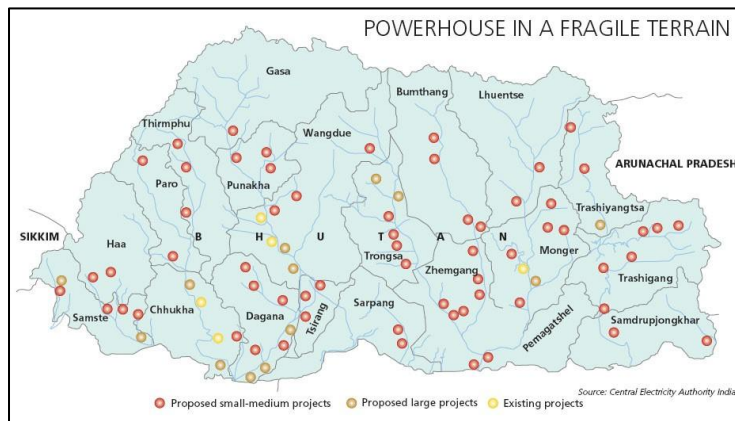
- You will **no longer need to apply in-person** at the consulate or the embassy
- The entire process will happen on a **single online platform**

Who will it apply to?

All visa required Non-European nationals travelling to the Schengen Area.



Dorjilung Project - Bhutan

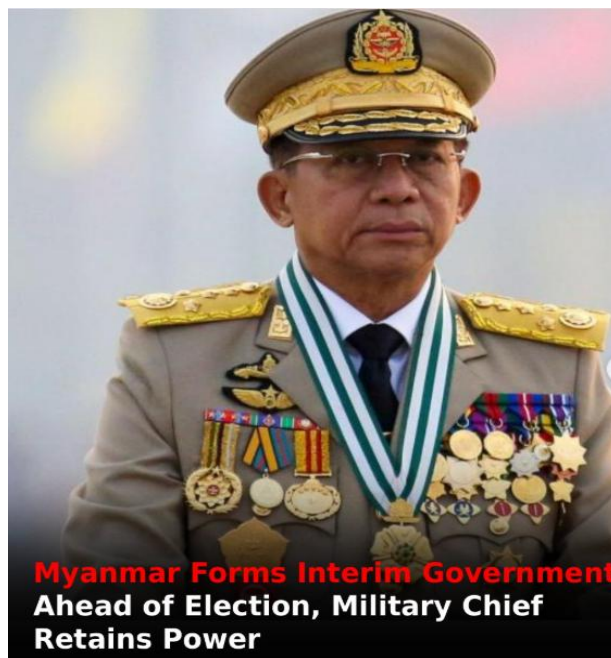


- ❖ The Construction of the 1125-megawatt (MW) Dorjilung Hydropower Project in Bhutan has begun with infrastructure works like roads and bridges.
- ❖ Tata Power of India has partnered with Bhutan's Druk Green Power Corporation (DGPC), marking a major private sector entry in cross-border clean energy.
- ❖ The project is financed by the World Bank and is estimated to cost 1.7 billion USD or around 150 billion Bhutanese ngultrum (Nu).

- ❖ The project will generate 4.5 terawatt hours (TWh) annually using six turbines with a dam located in Mongar and a reservoir extending into the Lhuentse district.
- ❖ Tata Power and DGPC will jointly develop 5000 MW of clean energy in Bhutan, including solar and other major hydropower projects.

New interim government in Myanmar

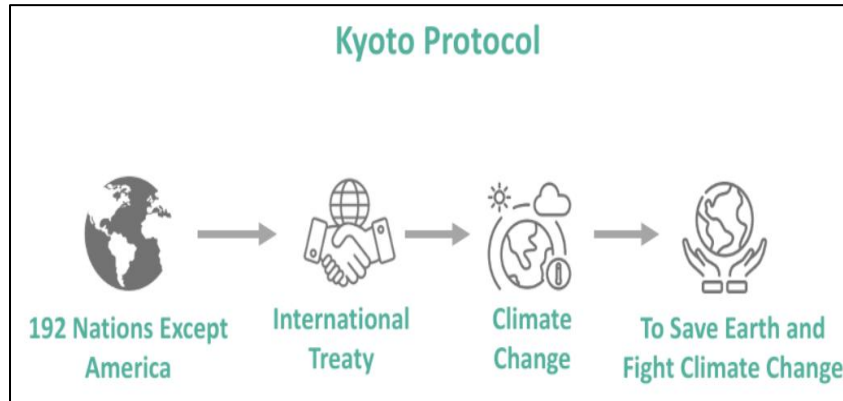
- ❖ The Myanmar's military has formally transferred power to a civilian-led interim government while the Senior General Min Aung Hlaing retains control as acting president and commander-in-chief.
- ❖ The nationwide state of emergency since the 2021 coup has been lifted, but the martial law is imposed in over 60 townships due to violence risks.
- ❖ Voting for the planned election will be held in December and January in phases across different areas because of security concerns.



Kyoto Protocol validity

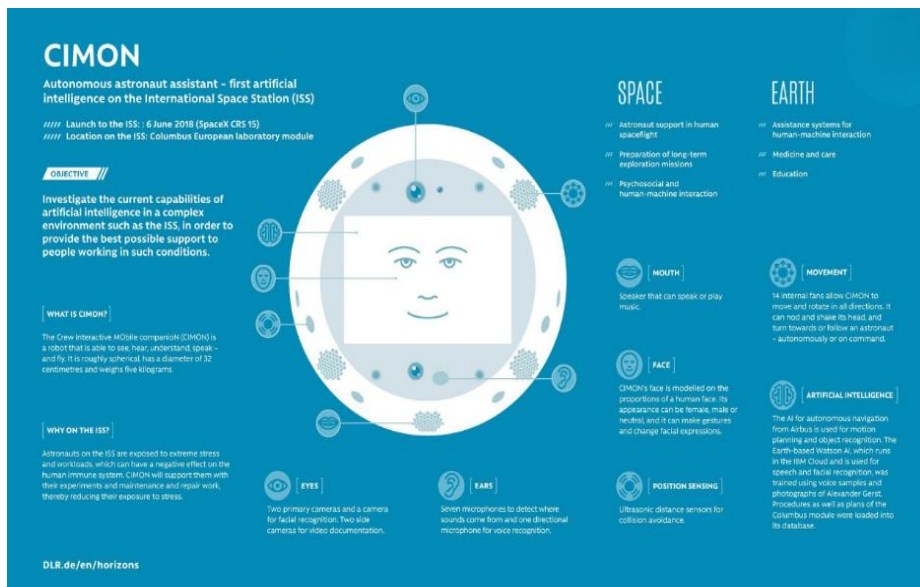
- ❖ The International Court of Justice (ICJ) ruled the 1997 Kyoto Protocol remains legally valid despite the 2015 Paris Agreement.
- ❖ Countries must comply with the Kyoto Protocol's provisions and emission targets under international law.
- ❖ The Protocol's first commitment period was from 2008 to 2012, and the second from 2012 to 2020.

- ❖ The Paris Agreement did not terminate the Kyoto Protocol, but no new commitment period was set after 2020.
- ❖ Non-compliance with the Kyoto Protocol may be considered an internationally wrongful act.
- ❖ The ICJ ruling is advisory and may lead to increased climate accountability and litigation worldwide.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Cimon AI

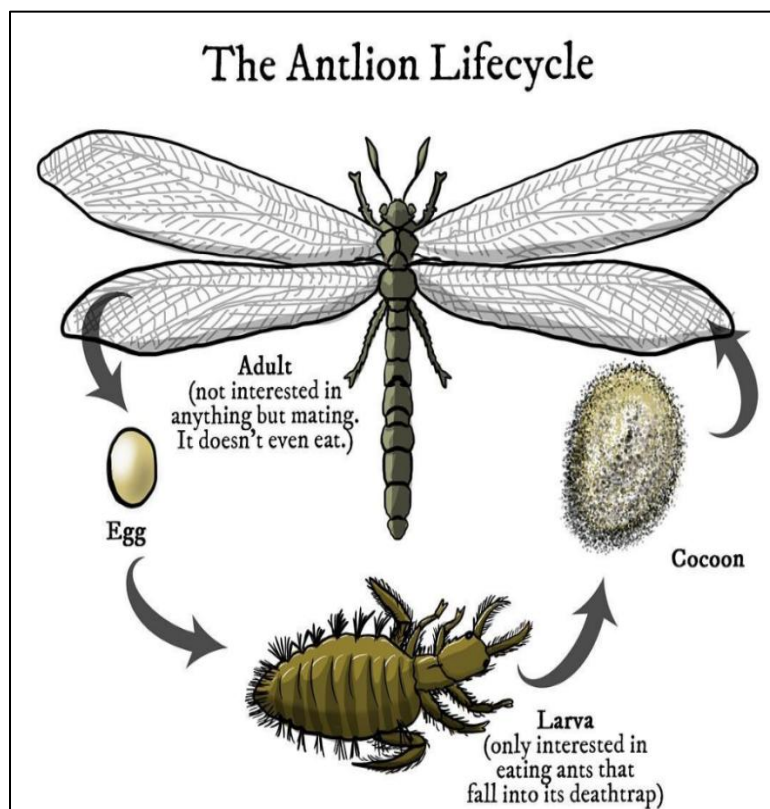


- ❖ The Crew Interactive Mobile Companion (Cimon) is an artificial intelligence robot developed to support astronauts on the International Space Station.
- ❖ The project focuses on reducing the workload, improving the time efficiency, and lowering stress during extended space missions.

- ❖ Cimon floats freely inside the station and operates through hands-free voice control for easy access to procedures and information.
- ❖ Cimon helps astronauts by showing step-by-step instructions or videos during maintenance and experiments.
- ❖ It functions as a mobile camera for live or recorded documentation of scientific tasks.

ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Antlion Species



- ❖ Three antlion species from the tribe Palparini have been recorded for the first time in Kerala in the Western Ghats region.
- ❖ The species recorded are *Indopalpares pardus*, *Palpares contrarius* and *Stenares harpyia*.
- ❖ *Indopalpares pardus* was found in Vazhayur in Malappuram district.
- ❖ It was earlier recorded from Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Odisha.
- ❖ Earlier presence of *Palpares contrarius* was reported in Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Mizoram.

- ❖ *Stenares harpyia* was found in Gavi in Pathanamthitta, Thirunelly and Vallakkadavu in Idukki and was earlier limited to Tamil Nadu and Telangana.

Tigers in Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary

- ❖ Odisha will introduce tigers in Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary in Bargarh district.
- ❖ The Forest Department received technical permission from the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA).
- ❖ Odisha's latest tiger count shows 30 Royal Bengal Tigers, mainly in Similipal Tiger Reserve.



STATES' NEWS

Landrace Seed Policy

- ❖ Odisha government has launched a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to integrate traditional seed varieties called landraces into formal seed systems.
- ❖ The SOP aims to conserve agrobiodiversity and empower smallholder farmers by prioritising farmers' knowledge and community seed systems.
- ❖ Landraces are genetically diverse traditional crop varieties adapted to local agro-climatic conditions and offer traits like climate resilience, pest tolerance and nutritional richness.
- ❖ The initiative expands previous millet-focused efforts to include pulses, tubers, cereals and other traditional crops.



Odisha's 4 Millet Landraces Released

