

August - 09

TAMIL NADU

Bharathiyar Mandapam



- ❖ President Droupadi Murmu unveiled a portrait of nationalist Tamil poet-journalist Subramania Bharathi at the Raj Bhavan, Chennai.
- ❖ She also renamed the Durbar Hall on the campus as 'Bharathiyar Mandapam'.

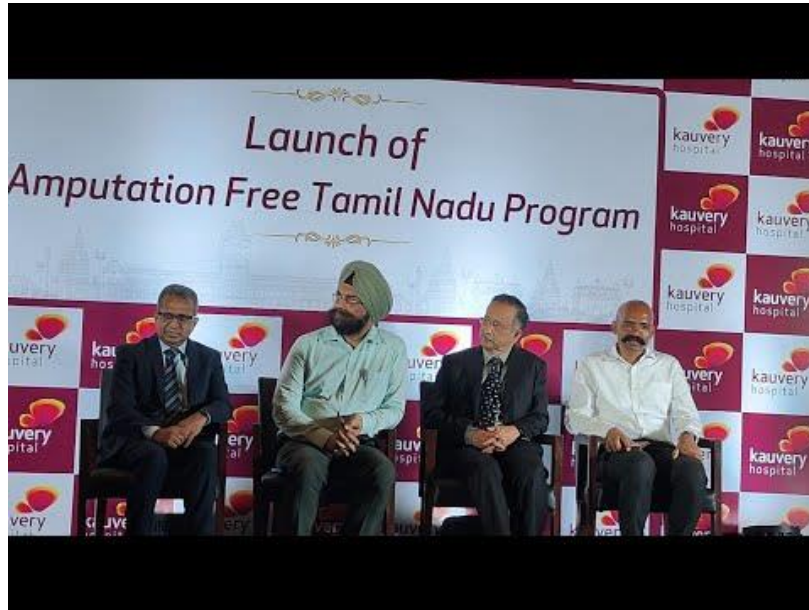
Fourth edition of Kalaignar Memorial International Marathon



- ❖ It sets Guinness world record for largest running race series.
- ❖ A total of 73,206 persons participated in this held at Chennai.

- ❖ It included 50,629 men, 21,514 women, and 1,063 transpersons.
- ❖ Last year, the marathon was recorded as the Asia's largest marathon.
- ❖ It held in the 100th birth anniversary of former chief minister M Karunanidhi.

Amputation Free Tamil Nadu



- ❖ Dr Sekar Foundation and Kauvery Hospital of Chennai launched the programme 'Amputation Free Tamil Nadu'.
- ❖ It was launched in observance of World Vascular Surgery Day on August 6.
- ❖ In India, there are about 350 vascular surgeons for a population of 140 crore.
- ❖ Only about 20 medical colleges in India have separate vascular surgery departments and majority of them are in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The most common causes for amputation are injury and diabetes.
- ❖ Eighty five percent of leg amputation is preceded by a leg ulcer.

INTERNATIONAL

G-20 negotiators - climate change hurdle

- ❖ The concerns have grown after two G-20 ministerial meetings on energy transitions, environment and climate in July

- ❖ It was ended without joint language on a number of key issues, including emissions targets, cutting down on fossil fuels, and climate finance.
- ❖ The differences carried into virtual Sherpa negotiations for a “zero-draft” or first draft of the Leaders’ Declaration.
- ❖ The first meeting was the G-20 Energy Transition Working Group (ETWG) in Goa.
- ❖ It was followed by the G-20 Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group (ECSWG), held in Chennai.
- ❖ According to India, differences between members were recorded on global emissions targets of peaking by 2025 and a 60% reduction in emissions by 2035 (compared to 2019).
- ❖ The developing countries, including India, did not commit to the reduction of emissions in 2035.



Energy Transitions Working Group Meeting as Part of G20 Presidency

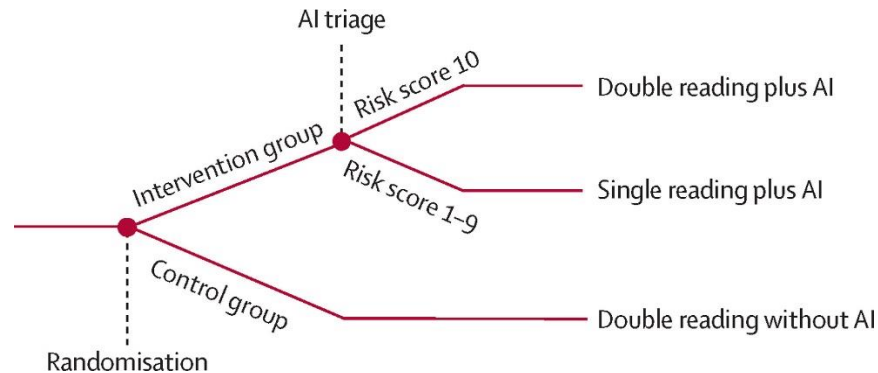


SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Mammography Screening with Artificial Intelligence (MASAI) Trial

- ❖ Retrospective studies have shown promising results using artificial intelligence (AI) to improve mammography screening accuracy and reduce screen-reading workload.
- ❖ However, a randomised trial has not yet been conducted.
- ❖ Planned interim safety analysis of the first randomised trial is investigating the use of AI in a national breast cancer screening programme.

- ❖ It underscores the potential of AI to make mammography screening more accurate and efficient.
- ❖ Interim findings from a cohort of over 80,000 women in Sweden reveal AI-supported screening detected 20% more cancers.
- ❖ The use of AI did not increase false positives (when a mammogram is incorrectly diagnosed as abnormal) and reduced the mammogram reading workload by 44%.
- ❖ Mammography screening supported by artificial intelligence (AI) detected one-fifth more breast cancers compared with standard screening.



LK-99



- ❖ A team of scientists from South Korea claimed to develop a material (LK-99) that could act as a superconductor at room temperature.
- ❖ A superconductor is a material that attains superconductivity, a state of matter with no electrical resistance.
- ❖ In a superconductor, an electric current can persist indefinitely.
- ❖ In regular conductors, resistance gradually reduces.

- ❖ But the superconductor's resistance drops to zero below a fixed temperature, which is the critical temperature.
- ❖ At this temperature, a superconductor can conduct electricity with no resistance.
- ❖ No resistance means no heat, sound, or other forms of energy would be discharged from the material when it reaches the critical temperature (T_c).

ENVIRONMENT

MP strategy for tigers

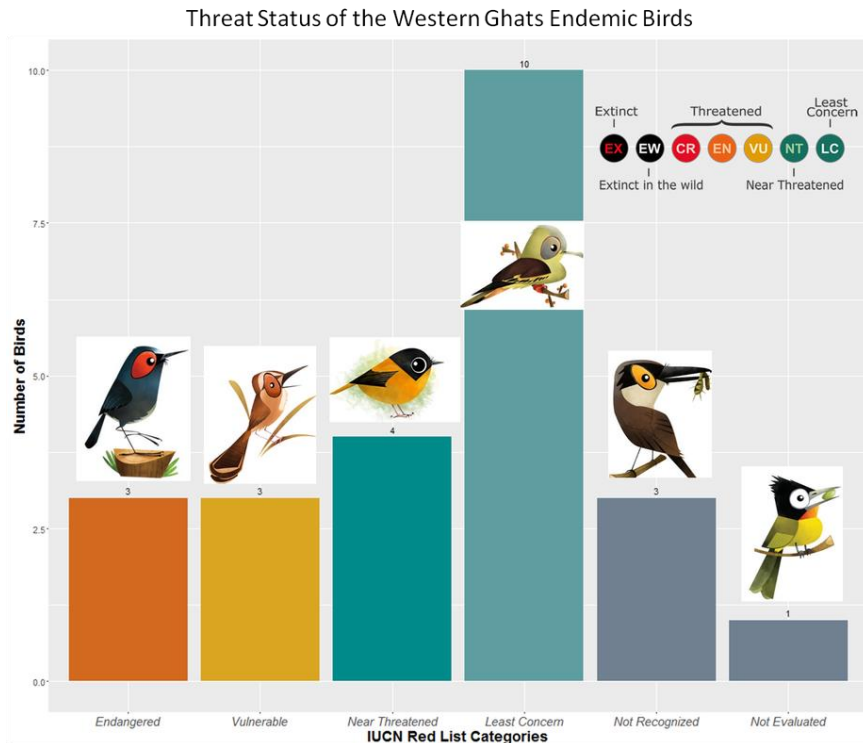


- ❖ Balancing the population of predators and prey was a key factor enabling a 50% surge in Madhya Pradesh's tiger population.
- ❖ It is helping the State snag the top spot in the 2022 census of the big cat.
- ❖ The project translocating African cheetahs to the Kuno National Park in the State has taken a beating, with six of the animals dying.
- ❖ An update to the 2022 tiger census publicised last week reported a count of 3,682 nationally.
- ❖ Madhya Pradesh, for the second time in the past three censuses, reporting the highest number at 785.
- ❖ The State has reported a 50% rise in the number of tigers since the previous census.
- ❖ It was a jump exceeded only by Bihar, which has a much fewer 54 tigers.

75 Endemic Birds of India

- ❖ It provides details of bio-geographic regions where the species are found, their conservation status, historical relevance, differences in subspecies, distinguishing traits, and preferred habitats.

- ❖ Of the 78 species, three species have not been recorded in the last few decades.
- ❖ They are mentioned in the International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species.



- ❖ They are
- ❖ Manipur Bush Quail, listed as 'Endangered' with its last recorded sighting in 1907;
- ❖ Himalayan Quail, listed as 'Critically Endangered' with its last recorded sighting in 1876;
- ❖ Jerdon's Courser, listed as 'Critically Endangered' with its last confirmed sighting in 2009.
- ❖ The highest number of endemic species have been recorded in the Western Ghats, with 28 bird species.
- ❖ The Malabar Grey Hornbill, Malabar Parakeet, Ashambu Laughing Thrush and the White-bellied Sholakili are recorded in the country's bio-geographic hotspot, the Western Ghats.
- ❖ 25 bird species are endemic to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- ❖ Nicobar Megapode, Nicobar Serpent Eagle, Andaman Crake, and Andaman Barn Owl are only found in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- ❖ Four species of birds are endemic to the Eastern Himalayas, and one each to the Southern Deccan plateau and central Indian forest.

- ❖ Of the 78 endemic species, 25 are classified as 'Threatened' by the IUCN.
- ❖ Three species (Bugun Liocichla; Himalayan Quail; Jerdon's Courser) are listed as 'Critically Endangered'.
- ❖ Five of the endemic birds in India are categorised as 'Endangered', and 17 as 'Vulnerable', while 11 are categorised as 'Near Threatened' on the IUCN Red List.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Balladeer Gaddar of Telangana (74)



- ❖ Recently he passed away leaving behind the revolutionary legacy.
- ❖ He became a member of the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) or CPI-ML (People's War Group - PWG) in 1980s as a moist.
- ❖ The direct talks held between the Congress state government in Andhra Pradesh and the PWG in 2004.
- ❖ Gaddar, along with revolutionary writers Varavara Rao and Kalyan Rao, acted as emissaries for the Naxalites.
- ❖ However, in 2017, Gaddar had severed all ties with Maoists and declared himself an 'Ambedkarite'.
- ❖ And in the 2018 Assembly elections, he voted for the first time in his life.
- ❖ Gaddar also had supported the Telangana agitation in his early days.

