

December - 07

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Indian Army carried out the Sudarshan Prahar exercise in the deserts of Rajasthan.

NATIONAL

All-women bench



- ❖ Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud has constituted an all-women bench comprising Justices Hima Kohli and Bela M. Trivedi.
- ❖ This bench will hear transfer petitions involving matrimonial disputes and bail matters.
- ❖ This is the third occasion in the history of the apex court that an all-women bench has been constituted.
- ❖ The first all-women bench was set up in 2013 when a bench of Justices Gyan Sudha Misra and Ranjana Prakash Desai was constituted.
- ❖ The 2nd bench comprises Justices R. Banumathi and Indira Banerjee in 2018.
- ❖ In 2020, the Chief Justice of Madras High Court Amreshwar Pratap Sahi constituted its first-ever all-women full Bench (comprising three judges).
- ❖ There are three women judges in the supreme court at present including Justice Kohli, B.V. Nagarathna, and Justice Trivedi.
- ❖ Justice Nagarathna is also set to become first woman Chief Justice in 2027.

- ❖ The apex court currently has a strength of 27 judges including the CJI, against a sanctioned strength of 34.

Advanced Light Helicopter Mk-III squadron

- ❖ 840 Sqn (CG), an Indian Coast Guard Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Mk-III squadron was commissioned recently.
- ❖ The ALH Mk-III helicopters were indigenously manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited.
- ❖ It will provide a major fillip to the abilities of the Indian Coast Guard in the sensitive waters of Tamil Nadu and Andhra region.



Inclusion Conclave



- ❖ National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) hosts an Inclusion Conclave for the first time.

- ❖ It aims to sharpen the focus on anti-doping education and processes for athletes with disabilities.

Tribal Winter Festival

- ❖ A first of its kind Tribal Winter Festival was held in Bandipora district of Jammu and Kashmir.
- ❖ People from the Kashmiri community, Gujjars and Bakerwals danced together to the beats of dhol (drum) in a unique portrayal of cultural unity in diversity.
- ❖ The 'gatka' was another attraction performed by two tribal communities.
- ❖ It was portraying the fighting spirit of the Gujjars amid all geographic, social and political odds.



INTERNATIONAL

Exercise Agni Warrior





- ❖ The 12th edition of Exercise Agni Warrior was a bilateral exercise between Singapore and India held at Devlali (Maharashtra).
- ❖ It involves joint firepower planning, execution and use of New Generation Artillery Equipment.
- ❖ Indigenously manufactured Artillery guns and howitzers also participated in the final phase of the exercise.

Chairmanship of Wassenaar Arrangement



- ❖ India will assume chairmanship of the plenary of the Wassenaar Arrangement for a year on January 1, 2023.
- ❖ The 42-member voluntary export control regime that monitors transfers of conventional weapons and dual-use goods.
- ❖ India joined the Wassenaar Arrangement in December 2017 as its 42nd participating state.

ENVIRONMENT

Natovenator polydontus

- ❖ The dinosaur, called Natovenator polydontus, lived about 72 million years ago during the Cretaceous Period.
- ❖ It was built like a diving bird with a streamlined body.
- ❖ It was possessing a goose-like elongated neck and a long-flattened snout with a mouth bearing more than 100 small teeth.

- ❖ Its well-preserved remains, a skeleton about 70% complete - were unearthed in the Gobi Desert.



Survey of birds in Chhattisgarh



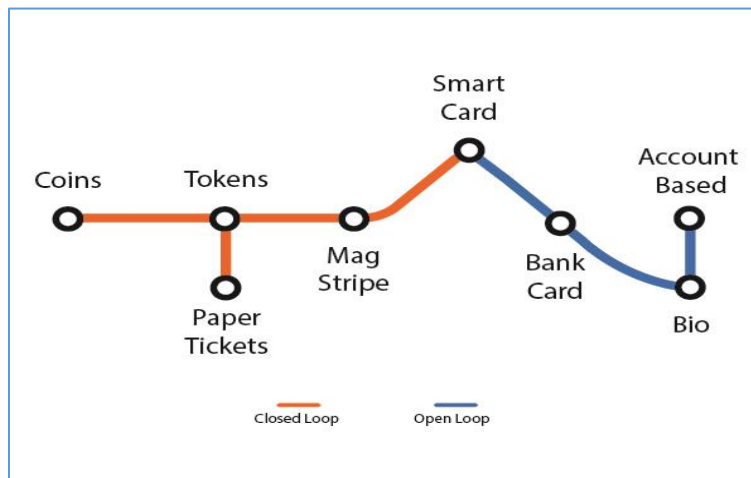
- ❖ Around 200 bird species were documented during the Kanger Valley Bird Survey in state's first-ever systematic inter-state bird survey.
- ❖ This survey was organised by the forest department of Kanger Valley National Park and birders from Chhattisgarh in collaboration with Birds and Wildlife of Chhattisgarh and Bird Count India.

- ❖ This was Kanger Valley's first such bird survey that involved forest personnel, bird guides and citizen birdwatchers of India.

STATES

Open Loop Ticketing System

- ❖ Haryana is set to launch the "Open Loop Ticketing System".
- ❖ This will make Haryana the first state to introduce the open-loop ticketing system for roadways buses.
- ❖ The open-loop ticketing system aims to help commuters to do away with buying physical tickets for roadways buses.



Gujrat Polling Booths



- ❖ The Election Commission of India has set up a polling booth for only one voter, Mahant Haridasji Udasin in Banej in the dense jungles of Gir.
- ❖ Voters in Shiyalbet village in Amreli district, which is surrounded by the Arabian Sea, and is reachable only by boat.
- ❖ Five polling stations have been set up on the island.
- ❖ One of the polling booths offered medical check-up.
- ❖ It was India's first Polling health booth in Junagadh district.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

International Lusophone Festival

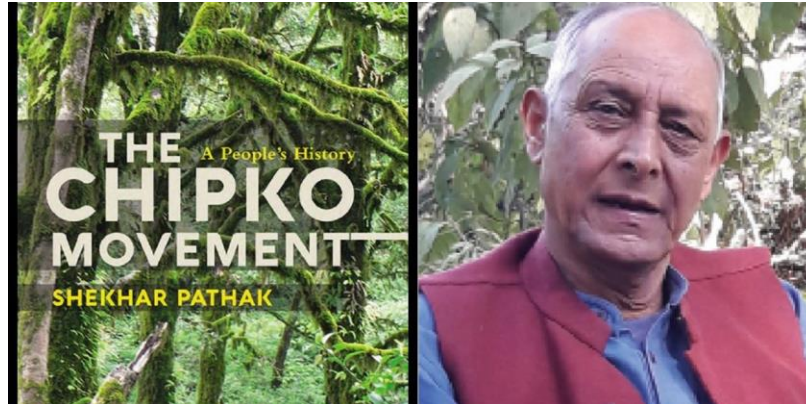


- ❖ India is hosting a four-day International Lusophone Festival held in Goa.
- ❖ The Lusophone world is spread in nine countries across four continents.
- ❖ Portuguese is the most widely-spoken language in the Southern Hemisphere.
- ❖ The Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP) or Lusophone Commonwealth, was founded in 1996 in Lisbon.
- ❖ Angola, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Guinea Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal and Sao Tome and Principe are the members.
- ❖ Timor Leste and Equatorial Guinea joined later.

Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay NIF Book Prize 2022

- ❖ A book on the popular forest conservation campaign Chipko Movement, written by historian-activist Shekhar Pathak, was named the winner of the Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay NIF Book Prize 2022.

- ❖ The award recognises and celebrates excellence in non-fiction writings on modern/ contemporary India by writers from all nationalities.



SPORTS

500 on Day 1 of a Test match

- ❖ England scored 506-4 on the opening day of the first test against Pakistan in Rawalpindi.
- ❖ It is the first time in test cricket that 500 runs have been scored on the first day.

TEAM	OPPOSITION	GROUND	YEAR	RUNS
England	Pakistan	Rawalpindi	2022	506
Australia	South Africa	Sydney	1910	494
Australia	South Africa	Adelaide	2012	482
England	Australia	The Oval	1934	475
England	India	The Oval	1936	471

MISCELLANEOUS

Naming Andaman & Nicobar Islands

- ❖ The government has named 21 uninhabited islands in the union territory of Andaman & Nicobar.
- ❖ They were after recipients of Param Vir Chakra, the country's highest wartime gallantry award.
- ❖ Out of the 21 islands, 16 are located in North and Middle Andaman district, while five islands are in South Andaman.



- ❖ The first uninhabited island numbered 'INAN370' in North and Middle Andaman was named after Major Somnath Sharma.
- ❖ Now 'INAN370' will be known as 'Somnath Dweep'.
- ❖ He was the first and the first recipient of the Param Vir Chakra.

