

December - 12

TAMIL NADU

Slender Loris and Dugong Conservation centers

- ❖ After declaring the nation's first Slender Loris Sanctuary and Dugong Conservation Reserve, the Tamil Nadu Forest Department has plans to set up the conservation centres for both in two years.
- ❖ The Loris centre will come up in Ayyalur in Dindigul district.
- ❖ The Dugong centre will come up at Manora in Thanjavur district.
- ❖ The Dugong Conservation Centre will serve as the centre of attention of the whole project.
- ❖ There will be a marine museum, amphitheatre, marine exploration centre and a fishermen's cove.



TN Economic's Data

- ❖ Tamil Nadu's net market borrowings (after adjusting for repayments) have been down by about 30.3% till September in FY 2022-23.
- ❖ It is reduced to ₹24,403 crore from ₹35,000 crore in the same period last year.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu borrows from the market through the issue of bonds known as State Development Loans (SDLs).
- ❖ Tamil Nadu's total revenue receipts stood at about ₹1.12 lakh crore in the first half of 2022-23, up from ₹85,209.74 crore last year.
- ❖ As on September 30, 2022, Tamil Nadu's fiscal deficit stood at ₹18,726.32 crore and the revenue deficit at ₹4,184.10 crore.
- ❖ Maharashtra and Odisha have witnessed fiscal surpluses in the first half of fiscal 2023.

- ❖ Some large states like Karnataka, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh have posted very small deficits (less than 30% of budgeted estimates).
- ❖ Bihar and Andhra Pradesh have already breached their full-year targets in the first half of 2023.

TracKD

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu police have launched “TracKD” application.
- ❖ This application will help them in real-time monitoring of known delinquents across the State.
- ❖ Details of more than 30,000 habitual offenders belonging to all the 39 districts and nine Commissionerate in the State have been digitised.
- ❖ The application would classify the suspects based on the nature of offence, modus operandi and the gang involved which would be useful to investigators to narrow down on the criminals.



NATIONAL

Constitution- a feminist document

- ❖ CJI D Y Chandrachud was delivering the 8th Dr L M Singhvi Memorial Lecture on the theme "Universal Adult Franchise: Translating India's Political Transformation into a Social Transformation".
- ❖ He mentioned that, the introduction of universal adult franchise was a revolutionary act at a time when such a right had only recently been extended to women, people of colour, and the working-class in supposedly "mature" western democracies.

- ❖ In this sense, our Constitution was a feminist document, as well as an egalitarian socially transformative document.
- ❖ It was a break from the colonial and pre-colonial legacy, the boldest move adopted by the Constitution that was truly a product of Indian imagination.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Elaliite and Elkinstantonite

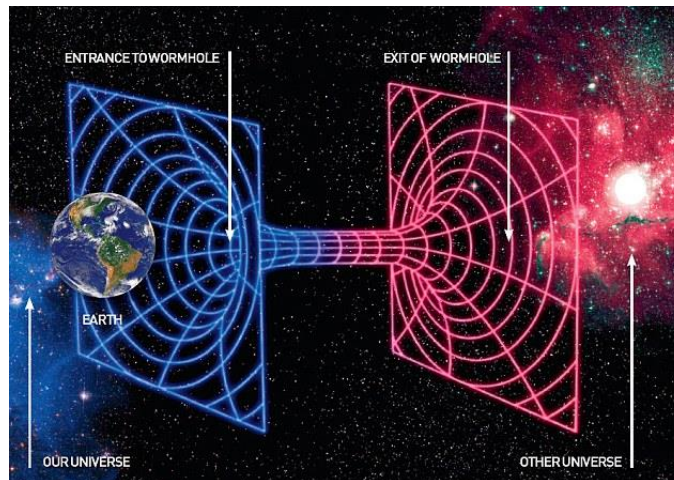


- ❖ Researchers in Canada have discovered two new minerals in a meteorite that landed in Somalia.

- ❖ The minerals have been named "elaliite," after the town where the meteorite crashed, and "elkinstantonite," after planetary scientist Lindy Elkins-Tanton.
- ❖ Similar minerals had been synthetically created in a lab in the 1980s but never recorded as appearing in nature.
- ❖ The 15-tonne meteorite is the ninth largest recorded at over 2 metres wide, was unearthed in Somalia in 2020.
- ❖ The meteorite came from an asteroid in the Asteroid Belt between Mars and Jupiter.

Baby wormhole

- ❖ Wormholes are a very common topic in science fiction.
- ❖ The proper definition of a wormhole is 'a rupture in space and time' which is regarded as a 'bridge between two remote regions in the universe'.
- ❖ While they are not existent in physical space, a group of researchers claim that they have created a mini version.
- ❖ A simulation was performed with two small black holes in a quantum computer and they were able to send a message successfully through them.



ENVIRONMENT

Melanochlamys bengalensis

- ❖ Zoologists has discovered a new species of head-shield sea slug from the coast of Bay of Bengal near Digha, Talasari-Udaypur and its adjoining places.
- ❖ It is named Melanochlamys bengalensis.

- ❖ The new species represents a distinct clade as compared to other species of the same genus.
- ❖ It is a small sea slug having a length up to 14 mm with shell inside body and no backbone (invertebrate).
- ❖ There are 17 species of this genus found around the globe.
- ❖ All these species are generally distributed in temperate regions of the Indo-Pacific Oceanic realm.
- ❖ This is the second truly tropical species after *Melanochlamys papillata* from the Gulf of Thailand.



REPORTS AND INDICES

Arton Capital Passport Index 2022



- ❖ It ranks the world's strongest and weakest passports.

- ❖ The rank of the passport is determined via a three-tier method.
- ❖ UNDP Human Development Index 2018 is used as a tie breaker.
- ❖ The UAE has the strongest passport in the world.
- ❖ Holders of this passport can travel visa-free or “visa on arrival” to 180 countries.
- ❖ Germany, Sweden, Finland, Luxembourg, Spain, and France are among the top 10 performers.
- ❖ India was ranked at 87th position in the world’s strongest passport list.
- ❖ Countries with the weakest passports are Afghanistan (38) Syria (39), Iraq (40), Pakistan (44).

EIU Cost of Living Index 2022



- ❖ The Worldwide Cost of Living 2022 report was released recently by the London-based Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU).
- ❖ It compares prices of more than 200 goods and services in 172 countries across the globe.
- ❖ New York and Singapore have tied to take up the top rank because of high income and a strong US dollar.
- ❖ Tel Aviv, which stood at the top rank in 2021, fell to 3rd position.
- ❖ Los Angeles and Hong Kong tied to the 4th place.
- ❖ Moscow’s ranking jumped from the 72nd in 2021 to the 37th in 2022.
- ❖ The capital of Ukraine -Kyiv is not in the 2022 list.
- ❖ Istanbul, Buenos Aires, and Tehran have recorded the highest increase in inflation.



- ❖ The highest rate of inflation was recorded in Caracas (Venezuela), where the cost of living increased by 132 per cent in the past year.

