

July - 30

TAMIL NADU

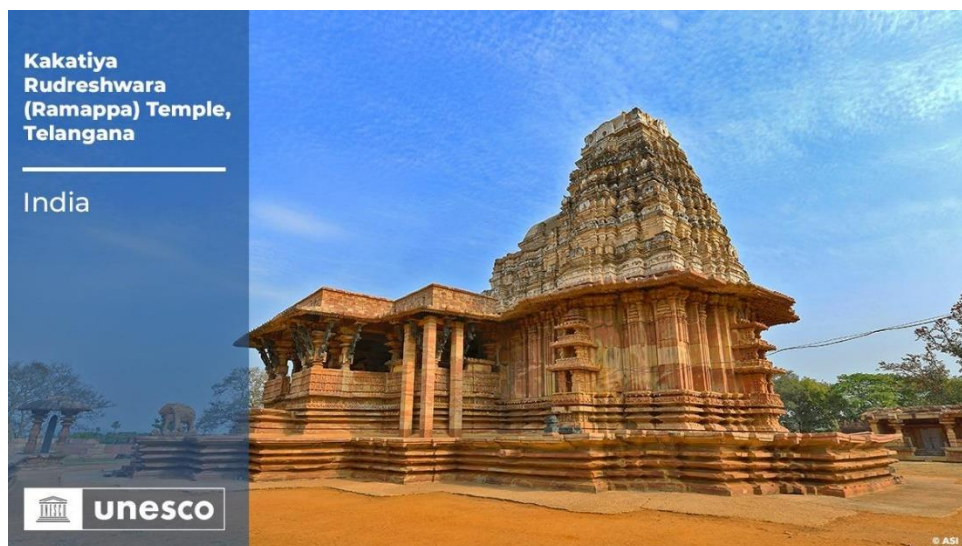
Sundaradevan committee

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government constituted a 13-member expert committee.
- ❖ It will be headed by N Sundaradevan, former Industries secretary, Tamil Nadu government.
- ❖ The committee will look into the challenges faced by the MSME sector in Tamil Nadu and will suggest immediate, medium and long term measures required for the revival of the MSME sector.

NATIONAL

Dholavira & Ramappa Temple

- ❖ A Harappan-era metropolis, Dholavira in Gujarat has been inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List.
- ❖ Now Gujarat has three world heritage sites.
- ❖ They are Champaner near Pavagadh, Rani ki Vav in Patan and the historic city of Ahmedabad.
- ❖ Dholavira is now the 40th treasure in India to be given.




- ❖ The ongoing 44th session of the World Heritage Committee of UNESCO has already given India a new world heritage site in the form of the Rudreswara/Ramappa Temple in Telangana.

- ❖ The temple dates built by Kakatiya dynasty back to the 13th century.
- ❖ This session of the World Heritage Committee is being chaired from Fuzhou in China.

A HARAPPAN DELIGHT

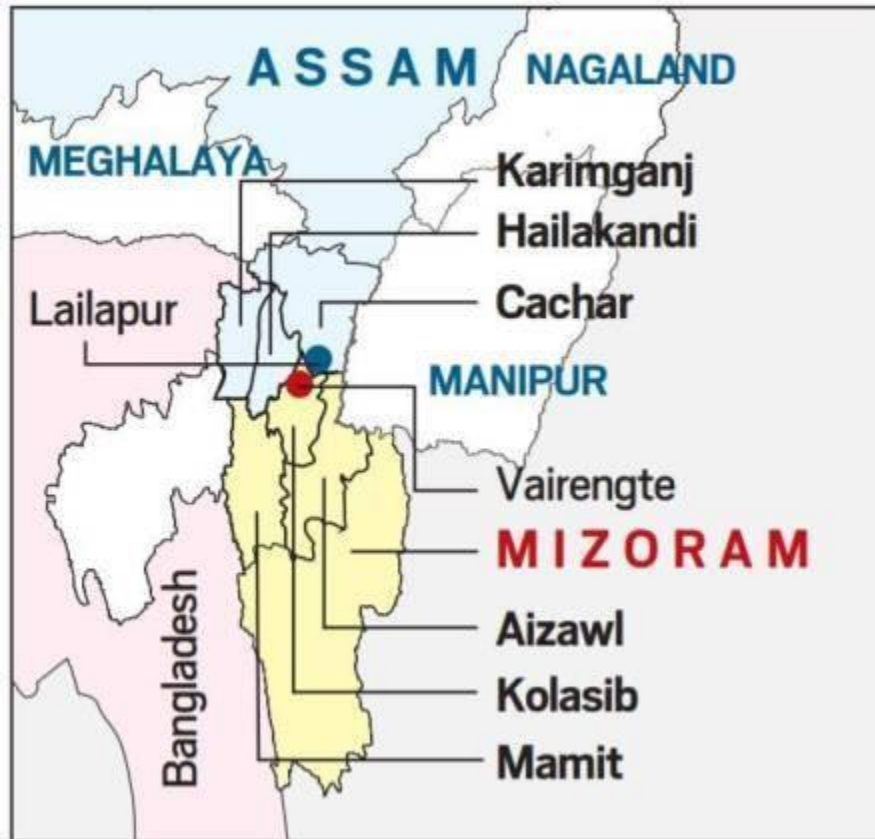
- Dholavira is the fifth largest excavated site in south Asia after Harappa and Mohenjo Daro in Pakistan, Rakhigarhi in India, and Ganwerwala in Pakistan
- It's second Harappan site after Mohenjo Daro to get the Unesco World Heritage Site tag
- The city is known for its impeccable town planning, adherence to ratio, water management system, and possible access to sea in its formative years



- According to the Unesco website, the town thrived for 1200 years (3000 BCE-1800 BCE) before its decline
- Experts believe that major water reservoirs in the later period may indicate it to be one of the first proofs of how climate and seismic change affect population in the past

Assam-Mizoram border dispute

- ❖ Mizoram was carved out of Assam as a Union Territory in 1972.
- ❖ By 1987, it became a full-fledged state.
- ❖ The two states have sparred over this 164.6 km long inter-state border over the past, sometimes leading to violent clashes.
- ❖ The dispute stems from two notifications passed under British era.
- ❖ First, notification of 1875 that differentiated Lushai Hills from the plains of Cachar.
- ❖ Second, notification of 1933 that demarcates a boundary between Lushai Hills and Manipur.
- ❖ Mizoram claims that the land is theirs is based on an 1875 notification, which came from the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation Act of 1873.
- ❖ Assam for its part, claims that the land is theirs.
- ❖ It goes by a 1933 notification by the state government that demarcated the Lushai Hills, which Mizoram was formerly known as, from the province of Manipur.
- ❖ During colonial times, Mizoram was known as Lushai Hills, a district of Assam.



Secrecy of Vote

- ❖ The Supreme Court held that in any election, be it to Parliament or State legislature, the maintenance of secrecy of voting is “a must”.
- ❖ It reiterated judgement in People's Union for Civil Liberties case (2013).
- ❖ It stated that Secrecy is a part of the fundamental right of freedom of expression.
- ❖ It also stated that Democracy and free elections were a part of the Basic Structure of the Constitution.
- ❖ [The ‘basic structure’ doctrine was framed in the judgment in Kesavananda Bharati vs State of Kerala case (1973).]
- ❖ The Court also said that any attempt at booth-capturing or bogus voting were crimes against democracy.



Gujarat's Kandla becomes first Green SEZ

- ❖ Kandla SEZ became the first green SEZ to achieve the IGBC Green Cities Platinum Rating for Existing Cities after it was awarded the IGBC Platinum Rating.
- ❖ IGBC Green Cities Platinum Rating is part of activities that have been envisaged under the government's commitment towards the Green SEZs Mission of celebrations marking India@75 – Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav.

INTERNATIONAL

Intrinsic

- ❖ Alphabet, the parent company of Google, has announced of the launch of a new company called Intrinsic.
- ❖ It will be solely focused on software developing for robots.
- ❖ Wendy Tan White has been appointed as the CEO of Intrinsic.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

World's biggest floating solar farm

- ❖ Singapore's Sunseap Group, is planning to build the world's largest floating solar farm and energy storage system in neighbouring Indonesian city named Batam.
- ❖ The floating photovoltaic system is expected to have a capacity of 2.2 gigawatts (peak).
- ❖ It will cover 1600 hectares (4000 acres) of the Duriangkang Reservoir on Batam Island.

Chicken slaughter waste for biodiesel production

- ❖ John Abraham of Kerala has received the patent rights for inventing biodiesel from the waste of slaughtered chicken.
- ❖ This biodiesel offers mileage of around 38 km a litre.
- ❖ This biodiesel costs around 40% of the current diesel price and cuts down on pollution by half.
- ❖ The invention is an outcome of inventor John Abraham's research at Namakkal Veterinary College under the Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University.



ENVIRONMENT

Green Sohra Afforestation Campaign

- ❖ The Campaign at Sohra (Cherrapunji) was launched by Home Minister Amit Shah.
- ❖ “Evergreen Northeast” was the slogan given for this campaign highlighting the importance of tree plantation and afforestation.
- ❖ This campaign will be run by the Assam Rifles and the Meghalaya.
- ❖ He also inaugurated Greater Sohra Water Supply Scheme.

SPORTS

First ever Olympic gold medal in skateboarding

- ❖ Japan's Yuto Horigome has won the first-ever skateboarding competition at the Olympic Games.
- ❖ He won the gold medal in men's street event at the Ariake Urban Sport in Tokyo.
- ❖ Kelvin Hoefler of Brazil won silver in the men's street skating competition.

- ❖ Jagger Eaton of the United States clinched the bronze.



ROC

- ❖ ROC stands for the Russian Olympic Committee.
- ❖ It's a workaround for Russian athletes to compete at the Olympics even though Russia was banned.

Note

- ❖ In 2019, the World Anti-Doping Agency banned Russia from all international sporting competitions, including the Olympics, for four years over a doping scandal.
- ❖ The punishment was cut in half to two years by the Court of Arbitration for Sport following a 2020 appeal and now ends in December 2022.
- ❖ But at this year's Olympics, Russia still can't be represented as a country.
- ❖ This led to the creation of the ROC.
- ❖ They also can't show the Russian flag and use their anthem.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Tiger Day - July 29

- ❖ Global Tiger Day or International Tiger Day is observed every year to raise awareness about the declining population of wild cats and making efforts to conserve them.
- ❖ This year marks the 11th International Tiger Day.

- ❖ The theme/Slogan for the 2021 International Tiger Day celebration is “Their Survival is in our hands”.
- ❖ The Global Tiger Day came into being during the signing of the Saint Petersburg declaration.
- ❖ It was signed by 13 tiger range countries in 2010 in Russia.
- ❖ The governments of these tiger range countries had resolved to encourage the conservation, protecting natural habitats and double the number of tigers by 2022.

