





27 December 2023

National and International News

<p>Aerogel fibre</p>	<p>Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inspired by the structure of polar bear fur, researchers present a knittable aerogel fibre. The fibers are washable, dyeable, durable, and well-suited to be used in advanced textiles. This allowed the researchers to test them in a sweater that demonstrated impressive thermal insulation, among other features. Aerogels are an ideal material for thermal insulation. Encapsulated aerogel fiber has excellent thermal insulation while also being mechanically robust.
<p>West Antarctic Ice Sheet</p> 	<p>Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Genetic analyses of an Antarctic octopus show that the West Antarctic Ice Sheet (WAIS) collapsed during the Last Interglacial about 1,29,000 to 1,16,000 years ago when temperatures were only about 1 degree C warmer than preindustrial levels. The findings suggest that WAIS collapse and resultant sea-level rise could be caused by even the minimal temperature rises. Total WAIS collapse would have devastating global ramifications — it could raise the global sea level by roughly 3 to 5 meters.
<p>India-Maldives ties on hydrographic survey</p>	<p>Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Maldives Cabinet decided against renewing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with India for cooperation in hydrography. The agreement, which was signed in 2019, is due to expire in 2024 <p>About hydrography</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is the science of studying oceans, seas, and other water bodies, by compiling and analysing data, maps, and charts. Branching off from applied sciences, it looks at measuring and describing the physical attributes of water bodies and predicting how

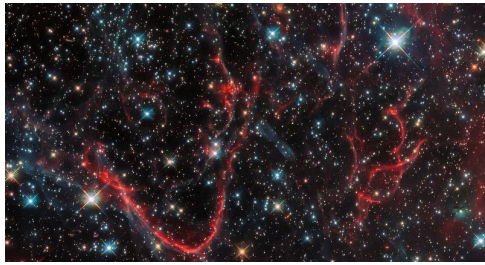


Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

	<p>they might change over time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While it is said to be undertaken primarily for safety of navigation, it also supports other activities, such as economic development, security and defence, scientific research, and environmental protection. • Hydrographical measurements include tidal, current and wave information. <p>India's expertise</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India has been an active member of the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) since 1955. • The Indian Naval Hydrographic Department (INHD) was established in 1874 in Kolkata. • It is the nodal agency for hydrographic surveys and has a fleet of indigenously built modern survey ships. India partners with many countries in the Indian Ocean Region and African and East Asian countries such as Mauritius, Seychelles, Tanzania, Maldives, Mozambique, Vietnam, Myanmar, Kenya, and Sri Lanka. • Personnel from 39 countries have trained at the National Institute of Hydrography, functioning under the INHD.
<p>Chavittu Natakam</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chavittu Natakam is a colourful and vigorous theatre form • It is considered to be a folk art form noted for its attractive make-up of characters, their elaborate costumes, detailed gesture, and well-defined body movements. • It is believed that the art form flourished at Kodungalloor in Kerala with the spread of Christianity. • The Portuguese are supposed to have introduced this art form in Kerala. • Chinna Thampi Pilla and Vedanayakan Pilla are considered to be the originators of this art form.
<p>Dark Energy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dark Energy is a hypothetical form of energy that exerts a negative, repulsive pressure, behaving like the opposite of gravity. • It is causing the rate of expansion of our universe to accelerate over time, rather than to slow down.



Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia



- That's contrary to what one might expect from a universe that began in a Big Bang.

Kudankulam nuclear power plant

Context

India and Russia signed some "very important" agreements related to the **construction of the future power-generating units** of the Kudankulam nuclear power plant.

Key points

- The Kudankulam nuclear power plant, **India's largest, is being built in Tamil Nadu** with the technical assistance of Russia.
- The **construction began in March 2002**.
- Since February 2016, the first power unit of the Kudankulam NPP has been steadily operating at its design capacity of 1,000 MW.
- The plant is expected to start **operating at full capacity in 2027**.

Kerala Regional News

Archaeologists bag award for discovering Harappan-era cemetery



Context:



- A **research project** by the University of Kerala's Department of Archaeology was recently honored with the Shanghai Archaeology Forum's Field Discovery Award for finding the **largest cemetery of Indus Valley civilization**
- It is the **largest cemetery identified in India from the Early Harappan Phase (c. 3200-2600 BCE)** of the Indus Civilization, spanning **approximately 16 hectares and consisting of over 500 burials**
- The site was found at **Juna Khatiya in Kutch district**.

Committee formed to monitor biomining at Brahmapuram

Context:



Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Local Self Government department (LSGD) has constituted a committee to monitor biomining at the dumping yard of the Kochi Corporation at Brahmapuram • The panel would comprise a senior engineer of the Kerala State Pollution Control Board, Director of Suchitwa Mission (Solid Waste Management), a professor of the School of Environmental Studies at the Cochin University of Science and Technology, and Superintending Engineer at the Kochi Corporation. • The Chief Engineer of the LSGD will be the convener of the committee.
<p>Ottamthullal</p> 	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ottamthullal is a vibrant and captivating folk dance form from Kerala • It is characterized by its humorous narrative, energetic movements, and rhythmic beats • Ottamthullal translates to "leap dance" in Malayalam. • It holds a significant place in Kerala's cultural heritage, entertaining audiences with its wit, social commentary, and playful energy. • It emerged in the 18th century, attributed to the poet-playwright Kunchan Nambiar. • As a response to the rigid structure and elitism of the Chakyar Koothu, a traditional performance form, Nambiar envisioned Ottamthullal as a more accessible and satirical avenue
<p>Ettumanoor Pepper</p> 	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ettumanoor Pepper hails from the village of Ettumanoor in Kerala • It is renowned for its distinct character and superior quality. • This "Black Gold" of Kerala holds a prestigious Geographical Indication (GI) tag, recognizing its unique attributes and origin. <p>Characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intense Aroma: Ettumanoor Pepper boasts a sharp, pungent aroma with hints of citrus and floral notes, contrasting with the usual earthy undertones of other pepper varieties. • Bold Flavor: It delivers a powerful, fiery kick followed by a lingering warmth, making it a



Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

	<p>sought-after ingredient for dishes demanding an exceptional pepper punch.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Distinct Appearance: This pepper variety features plump, wrinkled berries with a dark, almost black hue due to its vine-ripened maturity. ● Growing Conditions: Thriving in the humid soil and tropical climate of Ettumanoor, the pepper vines are traditionally grown on "Kanjiram," live supports like coconut trees, providing shade and optimal conditions for development.
<p>NGT Issues notice to Kerala over presence of Arsenic and fluoride groundwater</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The National Green Tribunal has issued notices to 24 states, including Kerala, and four Union Territories in a matter regarding the presence of arsenic and fluoride in groundwater. ● The presence of these metals or chemicals are "very serious" and requires "urgent preventive and protective steps". ● Effects of Arsenic: Long-term exposure to arsenic can lead to a multitude of health problems, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Skin lesions and hyperkeratosis (thickening of the skin) ○ Cancer of the skin, bladder, lung, and other organs ○ Cardiovascular diseases ○ Diabetes ○ Developmental problems in children ○ Neurological disorders ● Safe Level: According to the WHO, the safe limit for arsenic in drinking water is 10 micrograms per liter (µg/L). ● Effects of Fluoride: While fluoride in appropriate amounts helps prevent dental cavities, excessive exposure can cause: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dental fluorosis (discoloration and weakening of teeth) ○ Skeletal fluorosis (stiffness and pain in bones and joints) ○ Gastrointestinal problems ○ Neurological damage ● Safe Level: The WHO recommends a fluoride level of 1.5 mg/L, with adjustments based on climate and age of the population. <p>About:</p>



മലയാളം

ADDA247

To get free Live Classes,
Materials Scan this QR Code &
Download our Adda247 App



Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

- The **National Green Tribunal (NGT)** is a specialized body in India established to handle expeditious disposal of cases related to environmental protection and conservation of forests and other natural resources.
- It was set up under the **National Green Tribunal Act, 2010**, to address environmental disputes and provide speedy access to justice in such matters.
- NGT is a **Quasi-judicial body**
- It aims to **deliver speedy resolutions** to environmental disputes, reducing delays often associated with traditional courts.

Copyright © by Adda247

All rights are reserved. No part of this document may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without prior permission of Adda247.