





# Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

Polity & Governance	2
Science & Technology	4
Miscellaneous/GK	5





# Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

# **Polity & Governance**

### **Kerala Forest Development Corporation (KFDC)**

### Why in news?

• The State government has issued an order allowing the **Kerala Forest Development Corporation (KFDC) to plant eucalyptus trees**.

### **About KFDC:**

- Establishment: Founded in 1975.
- Purpose: To promote the development of forests in Kerala.
- Headquarters: Located in Kottayam, Kerala.
- Primary Activities:
  - Afforestation and reforestation of degraded forest lands.
  - Cultivation of commercial tree species like teak, eucalyptus, and acacia.
  - **Promotion of eco-tourism** and development of eco-friendly projects.
  - Production and marketing of forest products, including timber, bamboo, and medicinal plants.
- Eco-Tourism:
  - Operates eco-tourism projects such as Gavi, an eco-tourism village known for its wildlife and natural beauty.
- Bamboo Projects:
  - Engaged in **bamboo cultivation** and product development.
  - Focuses on sustainable bamboo resource management and the development of bamboo-based industries.

### **District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA)**

### Why in news?

- The **District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA)** has issued an **orange alert for Kollam district** on Monday.
- Residents living in risky areas should relocate to safer places as per the instructions of the officials in charge.

### **About DDMA:**

- Establishment: The DDMA is constituted under the Disaster Management Act, 2005, for each district in India.
- Composition:
  - Chairperson: The District Magistrate or District Collector serves as the Chairperson.
  - Co-Chairperson: The elected representative of the local authority (e.g., Mayor).
  - Members: Representatives from various key departments such as police, fire services, health, public works, and civil defense.





### Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

- Receive funds from the state government for disaster management activities.
- Functions:
  - Planning: Prepare and implement district-level disaster management plans.
  - Coordination: Coordinate efforts among different departments and agencies for effective disaster response.
  - Training and Awareness: Organize training programs and awareness campaigns for disaster preparedness.
  - Resource Management: Ensure availability and proper utilization of resources such as shelters, food, and medical supplies during disasters.

### Delimitation process in local self-government institutions (LSGIs)

### Why in news?

- The Kerala state government has decided to begin the delimitation process in local self-government institutions (LSGIs) ahead of the local body elections scheduled in 2025.
- Wards in various LSGIs will be divided and new boundaries fixed as per Census-2011.
  - Previously, wards were fixed as per the data of Census-2001.

### Key points:

- The population criteria for fixing of wards will see a change under the new delimitation process.
- At present, a grama or block panchayat ward has a population of 2,500.
- As per the new system, if any ward in a grama or block panchayat has a population exceeding 2,500, it will be bifurcated and a new ward formed. The same goes for corporations, should the number of people in a ward exceed 10,000.

### **About Delimitation committee:**

- A delimitation committee under the State Election Commission (SEC), having four IAS
  officers as members, will carry out the fixing and re-fixing of wards.
- After delimitation, the committee will submit a report on the number of wards under each LSGs to the state government which will notify the new wards.

### **Operation AAG (Action Against Goons)**

### Why in news?

- The Kollam City Police conducted Operation AAG (Action Against Goons), a State-wide special drive.
- The operation targeted gangsters, anti-socials, and the drug mafia.

### **About Operation AAG:**

- Operation AAG (Action Against Goons) is a **special drive conducted by the Kerala Police in India**.
- It was **initiated to combat goonda activities**, especially in the wake of rising cases under the **Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act**.
- The operation was initially launched in February 2023 and has been revived whenever a spurt in goonda activities was noticed.
- The operation focuses on arresting wanted criminals who have been evading



# Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

### arrest.

- Alongside Operation AAG, Operation Clean has been launched in Ernakulam Rural, a strategic campaign aimed at identifying and neutralising major threats and players associated with organised crime.
- The Kerala Police are also invoking the **Kerala Anti-Social Activities (Prevention) Act** (**KAAPA**) as an **effective deterrent tool to curb organised crime**.

Cabinet approves draft bill to increase panchayat and municipality wards

### Context

- The Kerala Cabinet has approved a draft bill to increase the number of panchayat and municipality wards.
- This decision is part of broader efforts to improve local governance and representation.

### **Key Points**

- **Legislative Session:** The 11th session of the 15th Kerala Legislative Assembly will convene on June 10.
- Padma Award Committee: A special inspection committee is formed for Padma Awards 2025, including key ministers and officials.
- **Government Guarantees:** Guarantees for loans to K Phone Limited and funding agreements for the development of Varkala and Thiruvananthapuram Central Railway Stations.

### **Additional Information**

 This initiative aims to enhance local administrative efficiency and ensure better service delivery to the public.

# Science & Technology

### Cyber security initiative

### Why in news?

- The National Institute of Technology, Calicut (NIT-C) organised a short-term training programme (STTP) on 'Network and Security' for Kerala Police officers.
- The programme was organised jointly by the Centre for Information Technology, Research and Automation (CITRA) and the Centre for Continuing Education and Skill Development (CCESD).

### Key points:

- The NIT-C and the Kerala Police Cyberdome had recently signed a memorandum of understanding to strengthen cybersecurity initiatives.
- The focus of this collaboration is to enhance the efficiency of cybercrime



### Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

investigations and provide comprehensive support to the public.

• It will also ensure the availability of technical experts and cyber professionals in digital information technology fields.

# Miscellaneous/GK

### Snake carving in Kasaragod

### Why in news?

- A snake carving has been discovered on a stone.
- The carving dates back to the **megalithic period**.
- The discovery was made in a village in **Kasaragod**.

### About Snake carving in Kasaragod:

- A significant feature of the site is a four-inch-thick stone carving of a snake circumventing an egg.
- The carvings were noticed by social activist and history enthusiast Satishan Kaliyanam.
- The carvings were identified as similar to the tiger carvings near Bangalam ground at Neeleswaram and at Cheemeni.
- The stone carving at **Alinkeezhil** could be approximately **2,000 years old**.
- The snake shape was carved using an iron tool.

### **Elephant population estimation**

### Why in news?

- A synchronised elephant population estimation will be held across south India for three days starting from May 23.
- The field assessment is a key part of the resolutions by the inter-State Coordination Committee, which includes Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka.

### Key points:

- The aim of these resolutions is to address human-wildlife conflict through joint action and intelligence sharing.
- Andhra Pradesh will also participate in this collaborative exercise.

### **About Asian Elephant**:

- Scientific Name: Elephas maximus
- **Habitat**: **Forests and grasslands** of Southeast Asia, including countries like **India**, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, and Sumatra.
- Physical Characteristics:
  - Smaller ears compared to African elephants.
  - A single finger-like projection at the tip of the trunk (African elephants have two).



# Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

- Males are generally larger than females.
- Social Structure:
  - Live in matriarchal herds led by the oldest female.
  - Males often live solitary lives or form small bachelor groups.
- Reproduction:
  - Gestation period is about 18-22 months.
  - **Lifespan**: 60-70 years in the wild.
- Conservation Status:
  - Listed as Endangered on the IUCN Red List.

### **Decentralised Seed Multiplier (DSM)**

### Why in news?

- The ICAR-Central Tuber Crops Research Institute (ICAR-CTCRI) is planning to expand a Decentralised Seed Multiplier (DSM) programme to more States.
- The programme aims to ensure the availability of good quality planting material of tropical tuber crops.
- Currently, the Decentralised Seed Multiplier (DSM) programme is being implemented in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, and Odisha.

### About Decentralised Seed Multiplier (DSM):

- DSM is a system designed to **enhance the availability of quality seeds by involving local farmers** in the production and distribution process.
- Objectives:
  - Increase seed accessibility and affordability.
  - Improve seed quality and yield.
  - Empower local farmers through training and participation.
- Key Components:
  - Farmer Selection: Identifying and training local farmers to become seed multipliers.
  - Training and Support: Providing technical training, resources, and ongoing support to seed multipliers.
  - Quality Control: Implementing standards and protocols to ensure the production of high-quality seeds.
  - Distribution Networks: Establishing efficient distribution channels to ensure seeds reach a wide range of farmers.

### Karumadikuttan monument

### Why in news?

- The Karumadikuttan monument near Ambalappuzha is one of Kerala's oldest connections to Buddhism.
- The monument is located in the village of Karumadi at Thakazhi.

### Key points:



### Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

- It is home to a 3-ft-tall black granite statue of Lord Buddha, known as 'Karumadikuttan', which is missing the left arm.
- The statue is believed to be as old as the 9th to 14th century.
- The **statue was discovered** in **1930** by **Sir Robert Bristow**, who installed it on the land near the place where it was discovered.

Kerala University researchers record 212 marine species at shipwreck sites

### Why in news?

- The research team at **Kerala University documented 212 species of macrofauna** at shipwreck sites off Shanghumugham and Anchuthengu.
- Species like Spiny Seahorse, Orange Cup Coral, Squat Lobster, Camel Shrimp and Red White Cleaner Shrimp were recorded for the first time in Kerala.

### Key points:

- The findings suggest potential for utilising shipwreck sites to promote sustainable fishing and tourism.
- The study recommends conservation of Rocky reefs as biodiversity hotspots.
- The marine biodiversity of the Kerala coast was studied using **remotely operated vehicles (ROVs)** and with assistance from expert underwater scuba divers.
- The biodiversity of the Dutch ship that sank in 1752 off the Anchuthengu coast and the Greek ship that sank off the Shanghumugham coast in 1968 were studied.
- The study **found invasive snowflake coral Carijoariisei** as a dominant fauna attached to the entire ship, raising concerns warranting more investigation.
- Kerala University has been selected as one of four higher education partners in Asia to establish Marine Monitoring Labs (MMLs) under the Ecomarine Project supported by the Erasmus+ programme of the European Union.
- The MML focuses on three key areas:
  - Assessment of marine biodiversity,
  - Monitoring of marine plastic pollution and
  - Climate change mitigation.

Historic Pen of Sree Narayana Guru to be Enshrined at Washington Ashram on May 26

### Context

- A pen blessed by the touch of Sree Narayana Guru will be installed at the Sree Narayana Guru Ashram in Washington on May 26th.
- The pen has historical significance and was preserved in Ulloor Sreedharma Nilayam's puja room.

### **Key Points**

- Event: Installation at Washington Ashram
- Date: May 26th
- Significance: Blessed by Sree Narayana Guru, gifted to disciple V Bhargavan Vaidyar
- Current Custodians: Sheela R Chandran and Vishnu Sharma

### **Additional Information**

• The pen symbolizes the spiritual and cultural heritage of Sree Narayana Guru's teachings and has been safeguarded by the Guru's disciples and their descendants.







# Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

### Naravana Guru

- Sree Narayana Guru (1855-1928) was a prominent Indian social reformer, spiritual leader, and philosopher from Kerala.
- He advocated for social equality, education, and spiritual enlightenment, challenging the caste system and promoting unity.
- Guru's teachings emphasized the importance of self-improvement, morality, and non-violence.
- He established temples, schools, and libraries, making significant contributions to the upliftment of marginalized communities.

### 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.