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Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

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Kerala Regional News

Places in news: Muzhappilangad Beach



Why in news?

 Muzhapilangad beach, Asia's largest drive-in beach, will undergo renovations and be presented as a New Year gift to Kerala.

Key Points:

- Muzhappilangad Beach is a drive-in beach in the Kannur district of Kerala, on the Malabar Coast of India.
- It stretches across 4 kilometers in length.
- In 2016, it was featured among the six "best beaches for driving".

Eco-friendly elephant rehabilitation center

Why in news?

• Eco-friendly elephant rehabilitation center to be established in the Konni forest region.

Key Points:

- The **Konni Forest Division** is located in **Kerala, India**, and covers an area of about 331.66 square kilometers.
- It is the first reserve forest in Kerala, which was declared on 9 October 1888 under the Travancore Forest Act of 1887.
- The division is part of the Western Ghats, which were designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site on 1 July 2012.

Do you know?

- Elephant is the **Natural Heritage Animal** of India.
- International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
 Red List of threatened species:
 - African Forest Elephant (Loxodonta Cyclotis)-Critically Endangered
 - African Savanna Elephant (Loxodonta Africana)-Endangered
 - Asian Elephant (Elephas maximus)- Endangered
- Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I

Awards & Honors: Udatham Awards

Why in news?

 Kalamandalam Balasubramanian, Kathakali artiste and former Principal of Kerala Kalamandalam, has been chosen for the maiden Udatham Award instituted in the







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	memory of Kathakali maestro Kalamandalam Vasu Pisharodi.
	 Key Points: The award will be given away at a function to mark the second death anniversary of Vasu Pisharodi at Kongad on November 30. The award comprises a citation and ₹25,000 as cash prize.
Salary Challenge for Wayanad	 Why in news? The government has issued an order containing guidelines for deducting five days' salary of employees as part of the Salary Challenge for Wayanad.
	 Key Points: The order suggests deducting the salary in two to four installments from employees who have submitted their consent forms. The order also includes provisions for granting permission to surrender earned leave and to contribute money by reducing the PF contribution.
Special Investigation Team (SIT)	 Why in news? A Special Investigation Team (SIT) has been formed to probe the allegations of sexual harassment in the Malayalam film industry.
	 Key Points: It is specially appointed under court order during urgent emergency situations. SIT can be brought by special order from Parliament to cooperate with existing state police and investigate a case Suo Moto. This special investigation can be done by the Station House Officer or any police officer, not below the rank of inspector. The sole purpose of SIT has been to conduct free and fair investigations for sensitive cases.

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