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12 August 2024

Maharashtra State News

<p>Ceropegia Shivrayiana</p> 	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A new flowering plant species from the 'Ceropegia' genus, named Ceropegia Shivrayiana, has been discovered within the Vishalgad premises in Maharashtra. <p>About Ceropegia Shivrayiana:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Species Name: A flowering plant species named in honor of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.• Discovery: Found on Vishalgad, one of the renowned forts of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.• Flower Characteristics: Features unique, tubular flowers adapted to attract moths for pollination.• Habitat: Thrives in rocky terrains and can grow in nutrient-poor soils.• Family: Belongs to the Asclepiadaceae family, known for its medicinal plants and ecological significance.
<p>Vishalgad</p>	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A new flowering plant species from the 'Ceropegia' genus, named Ceropegia Shivrayiana, has been discovered within the Vishalgad premises in Maharashtra. <p>About Vishalgad:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Location: Vishalgad village, Kolhapur district, Maharashtra.• Alternate Names: Also known as Khelna or Khilna by the locals.• Historical Significance:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Built in 1058 by Shilahara king Marsinh, originally called Khilgil.○ The fort was under the rule of several dynasties: Seuna Yadavas of Devagiri, Allauddin Khilji, Vijayanagar Empire, and Adil Shahi.○ In 1659, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj captured the fort from Adil Shah and renamed it Vishalgad.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Famous Structures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dargah: The Dargah of Hazrat Sayed Malik Rehan Meera Saheb, a popular tourist attraction. ○ Temples: Amruteshwar Temple, Shri Nrusinha Temple, and Sati's Vrindavan are located within the fort.
<p>Har Ghar Tiranga campaign</p>	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Under the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign, a Tricolor rally was organized in all 227 wards of the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC). ● The campaign, running from August 9 to 15, 2024, aims to instill a sense of national pride across the country. <p>About Har Ghar Tiranga campaign:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Objective: To encourage citizens to bring the national flag, the Tiranga, into their homes and hoist it to mark the 75th anniversary of India's independence. ● Launch Year: 2022 ● Initiated By: The Government of India under the aegis of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav initiative. ● Significance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Promotes a sense of patriotism and unity among the citizens. ○ Aims to strengthen the connection of the people with the national flag.
<p>Geoglyphs and Petroglyphs in Ratnagiri</p> 	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Maharashtra state government has notified geoglyphs and petroglyphs in Ratnagiri as 'protected monuments' under the Maharashtra Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1960. <p>About Geoglyphs and Petroglyphs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The petroglyphs at Deud, Ratnagiri, date back to the Mesolithic era (approximately 20,000-10,000 years ago), according to a notification by the culture department. ● Art Forms: Geoglyphs and petroglyphs are ancient art forms involving images or designs on the earth's or rock surfaces. ● Petroglyphs in Konkan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Depict animals like rhino, deer, monkey, donkey, and footprints. ○ Represent creations of Mesolithic humans.



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- **Locations:**
 - **Umbarle village, Dapoli taluka:** Seven petroglyphs discovered, one of which is 17-ft long.
 - **Borkhat village, Mandangad taluka:** Eighth petroglyph discovered.
- **Geoglyph Clusters:**
 - **Spread along 900 km of the Konkan coast in Maharashtra and Goa.**
 - Ratnagiri district alone has over 1,500 geoglyphs across 70 sites.
 - **Seven sites in Ratnagiri are on UNESCO's tentative World Heritage list.**
- **Unique Features:**
 - Geoglyphs on the **laterite plateaus (Sada)** in Konkan are **unique open-air ensembles** of prehistoric human expression.
 - Representations include **marine and riverine life, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and avian life.**
- **Conservation Concerns:** Conservationists warn that a **proposed oil refinery in Barsu could damage the geoglyphs in the area.**



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