


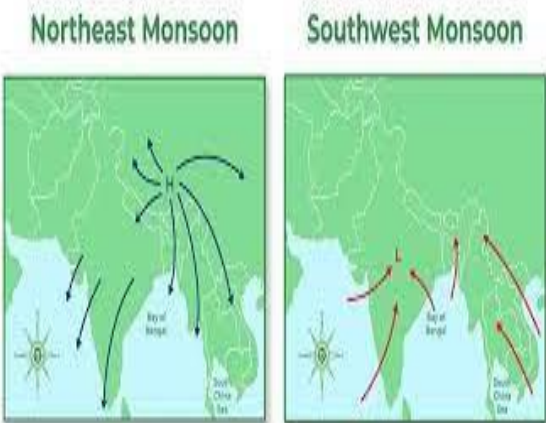


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Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

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<p>Melanistic pelicans sighted in Pallikaranai marshland</p> 	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two pelicans with brownish plumage were reportedly spotted at Pallikaranai marshland. • Melanistic pelicans are extremely rare. • Melanism is a rare genetic condition that results in an excessive production of melanin, the pigment that gives color to skin, hair, and feathers. • In pelicans, melanism manifests as a completely black plumage, contrasting with the typical white plumage of most pelican species.
<p>Northeast monsoon</p> 	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Northeast monsoon, also known as the winter monsoon, is a major seasonal wind system that affects India and Southeast Asia. • It is caused by the movement of the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) southward from its summer position over the northern hemisphere. <p>Characteristics of the Northeast Monsoon:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Period: October to December 2. Area of influence: Southern India, Sri Lanka, and parts of Southeast Asia 3. Effects: Rainfall, cooler temperatures, and reduced humidity <p>Importance of the Northeast Monsoon:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provides rainfall for agriculture, drinking water, and hydropower generation 2. Mitigates the summer heat and dryness 3. Supports ecological balance and biodiversity
<p>Amma Free Bus Travel Scheme</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Amma Free Bus Travel Scheme, also known as the Zero Ticket Bus Travel (ZTBT) Scheme, is a flagship social welfare initiative introduced by the Government of Tamil Nadu • It was launched in 2021. • The scheme provides free travel for all women,



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including transgender women, in government-operated ordinary buses across the state.

Key Features of the Scheme:

1. All women, including transgender women, are eligible for the scheme.
2. It covers all ordinary buses operated by the Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (TNSTC) and other government-owned transport corporations.
3. Women can travel free of cost on any ordinary bus route within Tamil Nadu.
4. The government reimburses bus operators for the revenue generated from women passengers under the scheme.

Objectives of the Scheme:

1. Empowerment of Women
2. Gender Equality
3. Social Inclusion

Kurumba tribe



Context:

- The **Kurumba tribe** is one of the **oldest indigenous communities in Tamil Nadu**
- They are believed to have **descended from the ancient Pallavas**
- The Kurumba people are **primarily found in the Nilgiri Hills**
- They are **traditionally hunter-gatherers**
- They **speak their own language, Kurumba, which is a Dravidian language.**
- They are also **skilled artisans**, and they make a variety of traditional handicrafts, including baskets, mats, and pottery.

Erula Kathai



Context:

- **Erula Kathai** is a **unique handwoven cloth** produced by the Erula community in Tamil Nadu
- It is **known for its intricate designs, vibrant colors, and durability.**
- The **weaving technique** used to create Erula Kathai is **passed down from generation to generation** within the Erula community.
- It was granted the **GI status in 2010**
- It is traditionally made with **natural dyes**, resulting in vibrant and long-lasting colors



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