



21 March 2024

## Telangana State Regional News

## International Day of Forests



## Context:

- The **International Day of Forests** is celebrated every year on **21st March**
- This day is **dedicated to raising awareness about the vital role forests play in our lives.**

## About:

- **International Day of Forests** was established by resolution of the **United Nations General Assembly** on **November 28, 2013.**

## Key points:

- Forests are viewed as the **lungs of the planet.**
- Trees **filter the air by decreasing CO2 and helping maintain a balance in the environment.**
- They are fundamental for **sustaining life on the planet and play a significant part in battling climate change.**
- In any case, the danger of **deforestation and degradation threatens the survival of forests around the world.**

## Theme:

- This year's theme is **"Forests and Innovation: New Solutions for a Better World."**
- It highlights the **critical role of innovation and technology in protecting our forests.**

## SAP Labs India's Code Unnati initiative expanded to Telangana

## Context:

- **SAP Labs India's Code Unnati program, focused on skill development for employability, has expanded into Telangana.**
- This initiative establishes **centers of excellence in 17 locations** across the state, focusing on **emerging technologies relevant to Industry 4.0.**
- **Implemented by Edunet Foundation** with support from **Telangana Academy for Skill and Knowledge (TASK), Code Unnati equips colleges with the resources for experiential learning in deep tech subjects.**
- The program **includes faculty development and mentorship** to ensure both students and educators are prepared for the future of work.



<p><b>Telangana braces for massive pollen tsunami</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Telangana is bracing for a rise in respiratory issues due to a large-scale tree felling operation in the Damagundam forest.</li> <li>• The deforestation, meant to make way for a military project, could cause a "pollen tsunami" as millions of trees release pollen at once.</li> <li>• Experts warn this could exacerbate allergies and asthma, posing a significant public health threat.</li> <li>• Pulmonologists have voiced concerns to the National Green Tribunal, highlighting the potential environmental and health risks of the project.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hyderabad sees record 45% spike in aerosols in 20 years: Study</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A recent study has revealed a significant increase in aerosol levels in Hyderabad over the past two decades.</li> <li>• The study reports a rise of 45% in aerosol concentration, which is a cause for concern.</li> </ul> <p><b>About:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aerosols are tiny particles, either solid or liquid, suspended in air.</li> <li>• They can be natural or man-made, and play a significant role in Earth's climate, weather, and health.</li> </ul> <p><b>Types:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Natural aerosols</b> include fog, dust, volcanic ash, and sea spray.</li> <li>2. <b>Man-made aerosols</b> come from sources like burning fossil fuels, spraying aerosols, and industrial processes.</li> </ol>
<p><b>TIFR-Hyderabad researchers come up with durable lithium metal battery</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Researchers at TIFR-Hyderabad have created a promising method for building safer and longer-lasting lithium metal batteries (LMBs).</li> <li>• LMBs are seen as a future technology for energy storage due to their potential to hold ten times more energy than current lithium-ion batteries.</li> </ul> <p><b>About:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A major hurdle for LMBs is the growth of dendrites, mossy lithium deposits that can cause short circuits.</li> <li>• TIFR-Hyderabad's approach involves modifying the battery's separator membrane, a critical component that keeps the electrodes apart, using a common and affordable graphite-based material.</li> </ul>



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## Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

### World Sparrow Day



- This modification helps suppress dendrite growth and improve battery life.

#### Context:

- World Sparrow Day is celebrated on **March 20th every year**
- It is **dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of conserving sparrows and other common birds in urban environments.**

#### About:

- The **Nature Forever Society of India, along with other organizations around the world, started World Sparrow Day in 2010.**
- The idea hatched during a casual discussion at the **Nature Forever Society in India, founded by conservationist Mohammed Dilawar.**
- Inspired by **efforts to save the house sparrow, they proposed a day to raise awareness about the decline of these common birds.**

#### Theme 2024:

- The theme for World Sparrow Day 2024 is **"I Love Sparrows"**.
- This theme highlights the special connection between humans and sparrows.

**IUCN Status: Endangered**



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