



27 May 2024

## Andhra Pradesh State Regional News

**11 new fish species found along Andhra Pradesh coast**



**Context:**

- A recent study by the **Zoological Survey of India** revealed **11 new fish species** in the waters off the **Andhra Pradesh coast**.
- This finding **highlights the rich marine biodiversity** of the region, particularly around artificial reefs and rocky shorelines.
- **Nine of the 10 species**, recorded for the first time in **Andhra Pradesh**, have been classified as **least concern** by the IUCN.

**The newly identified species include:**

- Vermiculated Blenny
- Singular Bannerfish
- Sea Blenny
- Similar Damsel
- Blotcheye Soldierfish
- Seychelles Soldierfish
- Threespot Squirrelfish
- Moon Wrasse
- Peacock Sole
- Whitelipped Eel Catfish
- Papuan Toby

**Andhra Pradesh govt. sets crop production target of 167 lakh MT for kharif**

**Context:**

- The **Andhra Pradesh government's Agriculture Department** has set an **ambitious target of 167.15 lakh metric tonnes (MT)** of crop production for the **upcoming kharif season**.
- To achieve this, they **aim to cultivate crops on 34.26 lakh hectares of land**.
- The government has **targeted that the paddy should be cultivated at least in 15.63 lakh hectares**, with a **yield target of 5,470 kg per hectare**.
- The government is also **eyeing a production of 85.47 lakh metric tonnes**.
- This indicates a focus on increasing both acreage and yield during the monsoon season.

**Four diamonds worth Rs 70L found by farmers tilling land in Andhra villages**

**Context:**

- Farmers in **Andhra Pradesh's Kurnool district** have unearthed **at least four diamonds worth Rs 70 lakh in villages of Tuggali and Maddikera mandals**.
- The monsoon season washes away layers of soil, exposing these precious stones, according to locals.



### Diamond hunt begins in Gudimetla



- Reports suggest that these areas yield diamonds worth Rs 5 crore annually.

#### Context:

- Every monsoon season, the village of Gudimetla in Andhra Pradesh, sees a surge in hopeful diamond hunters.
- Locals believe the area, once ruled by kings, holds hidden diamonds.
- The monsoon rains are thought to help loosen the soil, aiding in the search.
- People from nearby villages and even other states flock to Gudimetla with dreams of striking it rich.
- While some finds are reported, the success rate is low.
- This annual diamond hunt is a long-standing tradition in Gudimetla, fueled by hope and local legends.

### RfP issued for development of convention centre in Vizag

#### Context:

- The Visakhapatnam Metropolitan Region Development Authority (VMRDA) has announced a Request for Proposal (RfP) to develop a state-of-the-art convention center in Vizag.
- This project is expected to boost the city's infrastructure and attract more conventions and events.

#### Key Points:

- **Location:** Open space within VMRDA Park on Beach Road
- **Project Cost:** ₹250 crore
- **Development Model:** Public-Private Partnership (PPP)

#### Key Features:

- Multi-purpose convention hall (minimum 2,500 seating capacity)
- Minimum 5-star hotel or resort
- Waterfront entertainment facilities



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