




03 June 2024

National and International News

<p>Origin of Tamili script</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recent scientific analysis has pushed back the origin of the Tamil-Brahmi script to the 6th century BCE. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Scientific Dates: Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (AMS) dating has pushed the origin of the Tamili script back by a hundred years. Previous Belief: Initially thought to date back to the 6th Century BCE based on 2019 AMS dating. Revised Date: New findings indicate the script originated in the 7th Century BCE. Earliest Date: 685 BCE from Sivagalai in Thoothukudi district, Tamil Nadu. Significance of the Discovery: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Challenges the earlier belief that Brahmi scripts were introduced during Asokan times. Literacy Evidence: Inscribed potsherds found across Tamil Nadu show the penetration and level of literacy during Early Historic times. Widespread Use: Inscriptions engraved with personal names by common people reflect widespread script use. Impact on India's History: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historical Timeline: Implications for India's historical timeline, pushing back the Sangam era by three hundred years. Efforts to Rewrite History: Scientific efforts to rewrite India's history from Tamil Nadu gained momentum after findings in 2019 and 2021.
<p>Two-state solution</p> 	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> India, one of the first countries to recognize Palestine, has long supported the two-state solution to resolve the Israel-Palestine conflict. <p>About Two-state solution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The two-state solution refers to the proposal to establish two separate states for Israelis and Palestinians, aiming to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Historical Context: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The concept dates back to the early 20th century, notably with the 1937 Peel Commission and the 1947 UN Partition Plan. The 1947 UN plan proposed the creation of



	<p>independent Arab and Jewish states alongside an internationalized Jerusalem.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key Agreements and Efforts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Oslo Accords (1993-1995): A series of agreements between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) that aimed to achieve a peace treaty based on UN Resolutions 242 and 338 and the establishment of a Palestinian state. ○ Camp David Summit (2000): U.S. President Bill Clinton's attempt to mediate a final status agreement, which ultimately failed. ○ Roadmap for Peace (2003): A plan proposed by the Quartet (UN, EU, US, and Russia) that envisioned a two-state solution by 2005. • Main Components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Borders: Establishment of recognized borders between Israel and a future Palestinian state, likely based on the pre-1967 boundaries with mutually agreed land swaps. ○ Jerusalem: Jerusalem's status as the capital of both states, with special arrangements for holy sites. ○ Security: Measures to ensure security for both states, addressing Israeli concerns about terrorism and Palestinian concerns about sovereignty. ○ Refugees: A solution to the Palestinian refugee issue, balancing the right of return with practical resettlement and compensation.
Pampa Lake	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A team from the Karnataka State Department of Archaeology Museums and Heritage has discovered rock shelter paintings estimated to be around 2,500 years old near Pampa Lake in the Hampi World Heritage Area. <p>About Pampa lake:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location: Pampa Sarovar is located near Hampi in the state of Karnataka. • Significance: It is one of the five sacred sarovars (lakes) mentioned in Hindu scriptures. • Mythological Importance: Associated with the legend of Lord Rama and Sita from the Ramayana. It is believed to be the place where Shabari, a devotee of Lord Rama, met him and offered him berries. • Nearby Attractions: Close to other significant sites in Hampi, including the Virupaksha Temple and the Tungabhadra River.
Colombo Process	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India has become chair of regional grouping Colombo

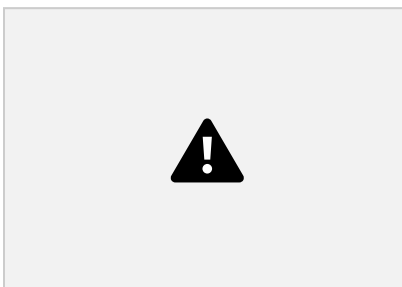


Process for the first time since its inception in 2003.

About Colombo Process:

- **Establishment:** The Colombo Process was established in 2003.
- **Purpose:** It is a **regional consultative process** on the **management of overseas employment and contractual labor for countries of origin in Asia.**
- **Member Countries:** The member countries include Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, **India**, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam.
- **Objective:** The main objectives are to optimize the benefits of organized labor migration, protect migrant workers' rights, and prevent illegal migration.
- **Key Areas of Focus:**
 - Skills and Qualification Recognition
 - Ethical Recruitment
 - Pre-departure Orientation and Empowerment Remittance
 - Return and Reintegration
- **Chairmanship:** The chairmanship of the Colombo Process **rotates among member countries.**
- **Secretariat:** The **International Organization for Migration (IOM)** serves as the **secretariat** for the Colombo Process.
- **Collaborations:** It collaborates with various international organizations, including the IOM, **International Labour Organization (ILO)**, and **United Nations (UN)** agencies.

Hoolock Gibbons



Why in news?

- The **Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR)** has allocated funds to **build canopy bridges in eastern Assam.**
- These **bridges will help Hoolock Gibbons, India's only apes, cross a railway track** that divides their primary habitat.

About Hoolock Gibbons:

- **Scientific Name:** Hoolock hoolock (Western Hoolock Gibbon) and Hoolock leuconedys (Eastern Hoolock Gibbon).
- **Family:** Hylobatidae.
- **Distribution:**
 - **Western Hoolock Gibbon:** Found in northeastern **India**, Bangladesh, and Myanmar.
 - **Eastern Hoolock Gibbon:** Found in northeastern **India** and parts of Myanmar.
- **Habitat:** Primarily inhabits **tropical and subtropical evergreen forests** and **occasionally in semi-evergreen forests.**
- **Behavior:**
 - **Arboreal** and **brachiating** (swinging from branch to branch).

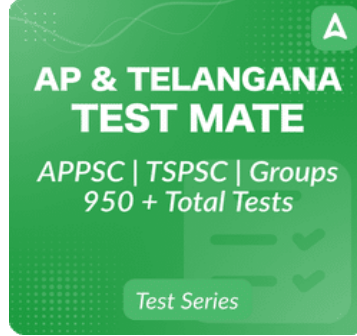


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- **Diurnal** (active during the day).
- Highly territorial and **live in monogamous pairs** with their offspring.
- **Conservation Status:**
 - **Western Hoolock Gibbon:** Classified as **Endangered** by the IUCN.
 - **Eastern Hoolock Gibbon:** Classified as **Vulnerable** by the IUCN.



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