

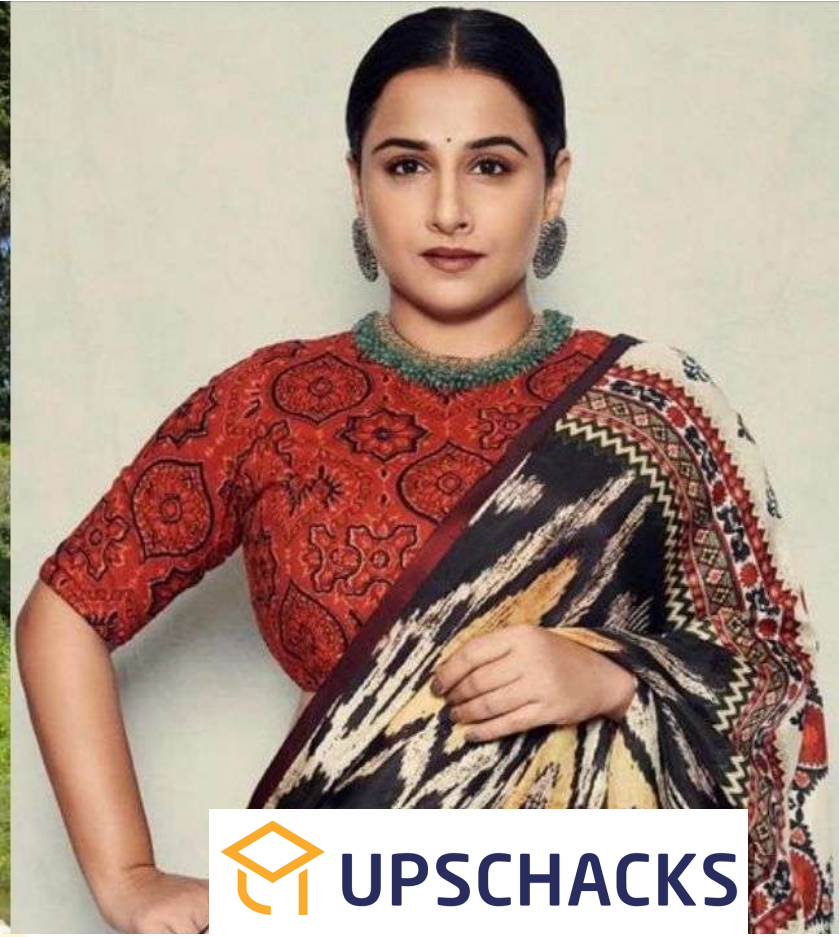
An aerial photograph of a winding asphalt road that curves through a dense, lush green forest. Several cars are visible on the road, including a white car, a blue car, and a white van. The road has white dashed lines for lane markings. The overall scene is captured from a high angle, looking down on the road and the surrounding trees.

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DAILY NEWS DECODE

08.07.21

Indian Army names firing range after Vidya Balan



- The Indian Army has named one of its firing ranges in Kashmir after Bollywood actress Vidya Balan.
- The Vidya Balan firing range is situated at Gulmarg in the Baramulla district of Jammu & Kashmir.
- The decision was taken in recognition of her contribution to Indian cinema.
- Earlier in the year, the actress and her husband Siddharth Roy Kapoor had attended the Gulmarg Winter Festival organised by the Indian Army.

DMRC launches India's first UPI-based cashless parking



- Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) has launched India's first FASTag or Unified Payments Interface (UPI)-based parking facility to reduce the time for entry and payment.
- The facility was launched at the Kashmere Gate metro station. As part of the Multi-Model Integration (MMI) initiative, dedicated Intermediate Public Transport (IPT) lanes for autos, taxis and r-Rickshaws were also inaugurated at the station.
- The facility can accommodate 55 four-wheelers and 174 two-wheelers. The entry and exit and payment of 4-wheelers can be done through the FASTag.
- The parking fee will be deducted through FASTag, which will reduce the time for entry and payment. Only the vehicles with FASTag will be allowed to park in this facility.
- The entry for 2-wheelers can be done only by swiping the DMRC smart card.

- **The smart card swipe is used only for registering the time of entry and exit and fare calculation and no money will be deducted from the card.**
- **The parking fee can be paid via UPI apps by scanning the QR Code.**



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NATIONAL CENTRE FOR BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES (NCBS)



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- A research paper by scientists at the National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS), announcing a breakthrough in the field of chemical biology, and published in the prestigious Nature Chemical Biology (NCB), has been retracted as its key findings were manipulated.
- National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS) in Bangalore, Karnataka, is a research centre specialising in biological research.
- It is a part of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) under the Department of Atomic Energy of the Government of India.
- On October 5, 2020, the paper “Discovery of iron-sensing bacterial riboswitches” was published online in the NCB. The publication was announced in an NCBS press release on October 6, 2020.

- The finding was significant as it announced the discovery of a new class of RNA (ribonucleic acid) molecules that could detect iron.
- Thus far, it was thought, iron could be detected only by specialised protein.
- RNA molecules, it has emerged, could detect nickel, cobalt, manganese but being able to detect iron, a key element that is vital for governing many biochemical processes, opened the possibility of designing RNA-based sensors.

dbGENVOC



- DBT-National Institute of Biomedical Genomics (NIBMG), Kalyani has created world's first database of genomic variants of oral cancer. NIBMG has made this database publicly-accessible.
- dbGENVOC is a browsable online database of GENomic Variants of Oral Cancer and is a free resource.
- First release of dbGENVOC contains
- ~24 million somatic and germline variants derived from whole exome sequences of 100 Indian oral cancer patients and whole genome sequences of 5 oral cancer patients from India,
- somatic variation data from 220 patient samples drawn from the USA and analyzed by TCGA-HNSCC project and
- manually curated variation data of 118 patients from recently published peer-reviewed publications.
- Oral cancer is the most prevalent form of cancer among men in India, largely fuelled by tobacco-chewing. Tobacco-chewing causes changes in the genetic material of cells in the oral cavity.

GILOY



- The Ministry of Ayush has issued a statement challenging the findings of a study that linked the herb giloy to liver damage.

- *Tinospora cordifolia* (common names gurjo, heart-leaved moonseed, guduchi or giloy) is a herbaceous vine of the family Menispermaceae indigenous to tropical regions of the Indian subcontinent.
- It gets its name heart-leaved moonseed by its heart-shaped leaves and its reddish fruit.
- It has been in use for centuries in traditional medicine to treat various disorders.
- According to the Ministry of Ayush, it is packed with antioxidants and can help one fight off free radicals and disease-causing germs.
- It is beneficial in removing toxins from the body, purifies blood, and help combat urinary tract infections and liver disease.

B'luru witnessed 90% spike in nitrogen dioxide pollution in 1 year: Report



- **Bengaluru saw a 90% hike in the city's nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) pollution levels this April as compared to last year, a Greenpeace India report stated.**
- **Bengaluru recorded 0.161 Dobson Unit (DU) of NO₂ in 2021 compared to 0.085 DU of NO₂ in 2020.**
- **Bengaluru recorded the third highest rise in NO₂ levels in eight state capitals after Delhi and Chennai**

GI certified Madurai Malli



- For ensuring that Indians living abroad get supplies of fresh flowers to deities at home and temples, consignments of Geographical Indications (GI) certified Madurai malli and other traditional flowers such as button rose, lily, chamanthi and marigold were exported today to USA and Dubai from Tamil Nadu.
- The flowers for the consignments were sourced from Nilakottai, Dindigul and Sathyamangalam, Tamil Nadu by APEDA registered M/s. Vanguard Exports, Coimbatore.
- The exporters of consignments were supported by professors from floriculture department of Tamil Nadu Agriculture University, Coimbatore in adoption of packaging technology to increase the shelf life of the flowers.

- **Direct contacts with the farmers to cultivate quality flowers were undertaken by the exporters and the initiative generated employment to about 130 women workers and about 30 skilled workers.**
- **Indian community in Dubai and USA would be able to offer fresh flowers to Hindu deities both at home and temples while celebrating religious and cultural festivals after exports of flowers from India continue at regular interval.**
- **Jasmine (*Jasminum Officinale*) is one of the most popular flowers found across the world.**
- **The scent of Jasmine is synonymous with the splendor of Madurai's Meenakshi temple, Madurai has emerged as a major market for the malligai grown in its neighbourhood, and has evolved into the 'jasmine capital' of India.**

Khadi Prakritik



- It is India's first paint made from Cow Dung.
- Union MSME Minister Nitin Gadkari is the brand ambassador of Khadi Prakritik Paint.
- The Paint has been launched with the twin objectives of increasing farmers' income and creating self-employment across the country.

'Revenge Tourism' is hitting Indians.



- The term 'revenge travel' is a riff on the 1980s Chinese concept of 'revenge spending', when the country saw an explosion in consumer spending after it emerged from restrictions.
- Now, it is used to describe the angsty, bottled-up demand for travel after several months of lockdown.
- Revenge travel or revenge tourism, stems from a feeling of wanting to break free from the monotonous life of lockdowns. It is a product of another phenomenon called 'lockdown-fatigue'.

Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam

Project



- The Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam , formerly known as the Millennium Dam and sometimes referred to as Hidase Dam , is a gravity dam on the Blue Nile River in Ethiopia under construction since 2011.

- The dam is in the Benishangul-Gumuz Region of Ethiopia, about 45 km (28 mi) east of the border with Sudan
- The primary purpose of the dam is electricity production to relieve Ethiopia's acute energy shortage and for electricity export to neighboring countries.
- With a planned installed capacity of 6.45 gigawatts, the dam will be the largest hydroelectric power plant in Africa when completed, as well as the seventh largest in the world
- After completion, it'll be Africa's largest hydroelectric project.

Cities on river banks to incorporate river conservation plans



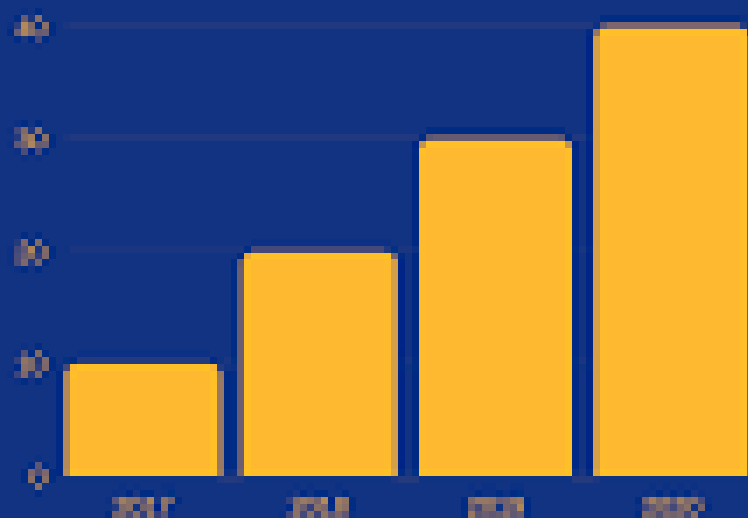
- National Mission for Clean Ganga has released a policy document on the conservation of river Ganga.
- Cities situated on Ganga river banks will have to incorporate river conservation plans when they prepare their Master Plans.
- These “river-sensitive” plans must be practical and consider questions of encroachment and land ownership.
- There is a need for a systematic rehabilitation plan for such encroaching entities that emphasizes alternative livelihood options in addition to a relocation strategy.
- The Master Plan shouldn’t mandate specific technologies, but it can “create an environment” for facilitating the use of state-of-the-art technologies (without naming the providers) for river management.
- It was registered as a society on 12th August 2011 under the Societies Registration Act 1860.

- It acted as the implementation arm of National Ganga River Basin Authority(NGRBA) which was constituted under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act (EPA),1986.
- Please note, NGRBA was dissolved with effect from the 7th October 2016, consequent to the constitution of the National Council for Rejuvenation, Protection and Management of River Ganga (referred as National Ganga Council).



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Financial Stability Report:



Financial Stability Report - 2020

By Reserve Bank of India

In the context of contemporaneous issues relating to the development and regulation of the financial sector.



- Recently, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released its Financial Stability Report (FSR).
- The FSR which is published biannually reflects the collective assessment of the Sub-Committee of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) on risks to financial stability and the resilience of the financial system.
- The Report also discusses issues relating to development and regulation of the financial sector.