

World's largest plant to capture CO2 from air that opened in Iceland



- 'Orca', the world's largest plant designed to capture carbon dioxide (CO2) out of the air, began operations in Iceland on Wednesday.
- Built by Switzerland's Climeworks and Iceland's Carbfix, it can capture 4,000 tonnes of CO2 per year.
- The plant mixes CO2 with water and injects it at a depth of 1,000 metres into the nearby basalt rock where it's mineralised.

Carbon dating finds 3,200-year-old civilisation in Tamil Nadu



- The Thamirabarani civilisation in Tamil Nadu is at least 3,200 years old, reveals carbon dating done on rice and soil retrieved from archaeological excavations in Sivakalai.
- Chief Minister MK Stalin announced a ₹15 crore museum in Tirunelveli to exhibit findings from the excavations.
- The museum will be called Porunai, an ancient name for the Thamirabarani river.

Guinness World Records recognise Ronaldo for most goals scored



- Portuguese captain Cristiano Ronaldo has broken the world record for most goals scored in men's international football.
- Ronaldo surpassed Iranian striker Ali Daei's long-held record of 109 international goals by scoring a brace against Ireland in a World Cup Qualifier.
- Ronaldo at 36 years of age is now a Guinness world record holder of most international goals of all time with 111 goals.
- The Guinness world book of records has recognised Cristiano Ronaldo as a world record breaker for the most goals scored in international football (soccer) matches scored by an individual (male).

Portugal between 2003 and 2021 proactively over a span of 18 years with a career still going strong as he looks to overcome yet another new challenge after his move away from Turin with a year left on his contract with the Bianconeri.



Tata to be 1st private Indian firm to make military aircraft as Cabinet gives nod



- Tata Group will make military transport aircraft for the Indian Air Force in the first such deal for an India private sector company.
- This comes as the Cabinet approved the Tata-Airbus project to build 56 C-295MW transport aircraft on Wednesday.
- Tata will make 40 aircraft in India within 10 years, while the rest will be delivered by Airbus from Spain.

MANDA BUFFALO



- The National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources (NBAGR)
 has recognised the Manda buffalo, found in the Eastern
 Ghats and plateau of Koraput region of Odisha, as the 19th
 unique breed of buffaloes found in India.
- The Manda are resistant to parasitic infections, less prone to diseases and can thrive on modest resources.
- This buffalo germ-plasm was first identified through a survey conducted by the Animal Resource Development (ARD) department of Odisha in collaboration with the Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology (OUAT).
- The NBAGR is affiliated to Indian Council of Agriculture Research.

UAE's green visa



- Recently, the United Arab Emirates launched a Green Visa targeting highly skilled workers, students and graduates.
- Under the green visa, foreigners will be allowed to work in the UAE without being sponsored by an employer.
- This will be a marked change from the norm which requires a prospective worker to be sponsored via an employer, who, in turn, applies for a work permit from the Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratisation.
- The Green Visa holders can sponsor their parents and children up to the age of 25 on their permits.
- The UAE government will allow people who lost their jobs to remain in the UAE for up to 6 months which is an incentive as most visas are tied to employment contacts.

- It has allowed hiring of temporary workers above the age of
 15 in a bid to loosen the job market.
- Foreigners in the oil-rich United Arab Emirates are generally only given limited visas tied to their employment, and long-term residency is difficult to obtain.
- But those holding the new "green visa" will be able to work without company sponsorship.
- The coronavirus pandemic has also impacted tourism and businesses in the UAE, whose economy was already slumping in recent years due to low oil prices.
- The new category, referred to as "green visa", comes as a part of a wider array of measures introduced by the Arab world to boost the economy and reduce reliance on oil.
- In 2019, the UAE launched the 10-year "Golden visa" to attract wealthy individuals and highly skilled workers, the first such scheme in the Gulf.
- Foreigners account for 90 percent of the 10 million population in the UAE, the Arab world's second-largest economy after neighbouring Saudi Arabia.
- Similar programmes have since been launched in other resource-rich Gulf countries, such as Saudi Arabia and Qatar.
- Federal freelancers visa

 Another stream of visa that was announced was the federal freelancers visa for self-employed workers based in the UAE and overseas in specialised fields such as artificial intelligence, blockchain and digital currencies.



