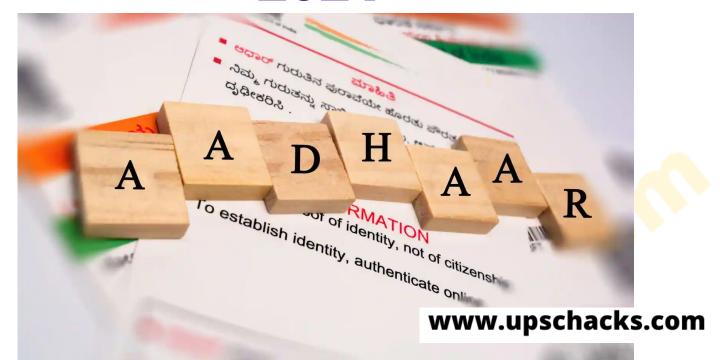


UIDAI to host 'Aadhaar Hackathon 2021'



- Government agency UIDAI is hosting a Hackathon titled "Aadhaar Hackathon 2021".
- The hackathon is starting on 28 Oct 21 and would continue till 31 Oct 21. With new challenged and themes, the Hackathon 2021 will have two topics.
- The first theme is around "Enrolment and Update", which essentially covers some of the real-life challenges being faced by the residents while updating their address.
- The second theme of the Hackathon is around the "Identity and Authentication" solution offered by UIDAI.

- UIDAI is soliciting innovative solutions to prove Identity without sharing the Aadhaar number or any demographics information.
- Also, it is looking for innovative applications around face authentication API – the newly launched authentication modality of UIDAI.
- The objective is to popularize some of the existing and new APIs to solve the needs of residents.

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Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation wins Earth Heroes Awards 2021



- The Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation has bagged the Earth Guardian Award instituted by the NatWest Group.
- The eight winners of the award were felicitated by the UN Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora secretary-general Ivonne Higuero through a virtual ceremony.
- These awards were instituted by NatWest Group India. They
 are part of an initiative which recognises the efforts of
 individuals and institutions that are working to subvert
 climate change by conserving & preserving biodiversity in
 India.

- Parambikulam Tiger Reserve also includes erstwhile Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuary, which is spread across 391 square kilometres.
- It is a protected area in Palakkad district of Kerala. It was established in 1973.
- The sanctuary lies in the Sungam range of hills in between Anaimalai Hills and Nelliampathy Hills.
- Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuary was declared a part of Parambikulam Tiger Reserve in 2010. Tiger reserve implements the Participatory Forest Management Scheme (PFMS).

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Barbados elects its first-ever president, removing UK's Queen Elizabeth



- Dame Sandra Mason, 72, is set to be sworn in on 30 November, which will mark the country's 55th anniversary of independence from Britain.
- The first woman to serve on the Barbados Court of Appeals,
 Dame Sandra has been governor-general since 2018.
- The historic election came after a joint session of the House of Assembly and the Senate.
- described the vote as a "seminal moment" for the nation.

- With a population of about 285,000, Barbados is one of the more populous and prosperous Caribbean islands. Once heavily dependent on sugar exports, its economy has diversified into tourism and finance.
- Barbados will not be the first former British colony in the Caribbean to become a republic.
- Guyana took that step in 1970, less than four years after gaining independence from Britain.
- Trinidad and Tobago followed suit in 1976 and Dominica in 1978.

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INDIA-SRI LANKA BUDDHIST TIES



- To mark the inauguration of Kushinagar International Airport in Uttar Pradesh by PM Modi, Sri Lanka presented to India photographs of two murals painted by renowned Sri Lankan artist Solias Mendis at the Kelaniya Rajamaha Vihara, a popular Buddhist temple near Colombo.
- One of the murals depicts 'Arahat Bhikkhu' Mahinda, son of Emperor Ashoka delivering the message of the Buddha to King Devanampiyatissa of Sri Lanka.
- The other shows the arrival of 'Theri Bhikkhuni'
 Sanghamitta, the daughter of the Emperor, in Sri Lanka,
 bearing a sapling of the 'sacred Bodhi tree' under which
 Siddhārtha Gautama is believed to have obtained
 enlightenment.
- The gesture comes at a time when Sri Lanka and India have agreed to strengthen ties through their shared Buddhist heritage.

INDIA'S FIRST BANNI BUFFALO IVF CALF BORN



- With the birth of first IVF calf of a Buffalo breed namely Banni in the country, India's OPU - IVF work has reached to next level.
- This is the first Banni Buffalo IVF calf in the country.
- This first IVF Banni calf is born out of 6 Banni IVF pregnancies established at the doorsteps of a farmer, Vinay.
 L. Wala of Sushila Agro farms, located at Dhanej in Somnath district of Gujarat.
- Prime Minister Modi had talked about the Banni buffalo breed during his visit to Kutch region of Gujarat on December 15, 2020. The very next day, i.e. December 16, 2020, Ovum Pick-Up (OPU) and aspiration processes for the in vitro fertilization (IVF) of Banni Buffaloes were planned.

Bathukamma festival



- Burj Khalifa lights up to celebrate Telangana's Bathukamma festival
- Bathukamma is a colourful and vibrant festival of Telangana and celebrated by women, with flowers that grow exclusively in each region. This festival is a symbol of Telangana's cultural identity.
- The festival begins a week before the grand 'Saddula Batukamma' (the grand finale of the Batukamma festival) which falls two days before Dussehra.
- Bathukamma is a beautiful flower stack, arranged with different unique seasonal flowers most of them with medicinal values, in seven concentric layers in the shape of temple gopuram.
- Batukamma celebrates the inherent relationship between earth, water and the human beings.