

India's first Radio over Internet Protocol system inaugurated in Kolkata



- The Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port (SPM) in Kolkata has become the first Major Indian Port to get a Radio over Internet Protocol (ROIP) System.
- The ROIP was inaugurated by Vinit Kumar, Chairman of SPM, on October 25, 2021. SMP, Kolkata has been constantly maintaining its pivotal position in Indian Major Ports for the past 152 years.
- ROIP system is a long-range marine communication solution, to aid especially during storms and inclement weather. Using the ROIP mode of communication, the vessels at Sandheads can be directly communicated via Radio, from Kolkata. The solution shall cover the entire Hugli River Estuary from Kolkata to Sandheads, and will have base stations at 4 Locations: Kolkata, Hugli point, Haldia and Sagar Pilot Station.

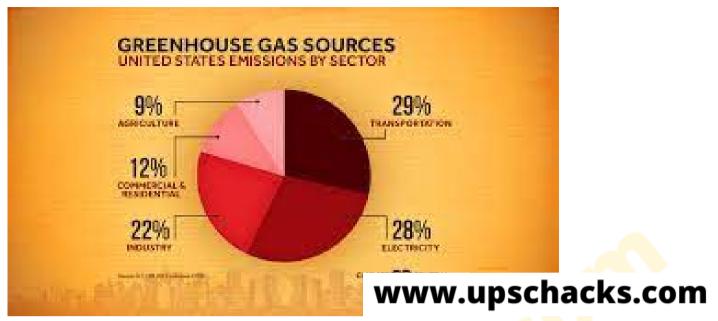
Goa became the 1st state to achieve ODF and Electricity for each household



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- Goa has achieved Open Defecation Free (ODF) and Electricity for every household. The original ODF protocol was issued in the year 2016.
- According to it, a city or ward is notified as ODF city or ward if not a single person is found defecating in the open, at any point of the day.
 - Goa has also become the first state to provide tap water to every household under the "Har Ghar Jal Mission". Apart from that, Goa achieved a 100 per cent target to provide free ration to the poor and needy. It has also completed 100 per cent first dose of covid-19 vaccination.

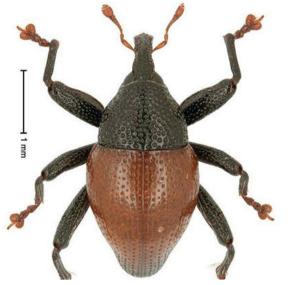
GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IN 2020



- A report from the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) said the increase in CO2 from 2019 to 2020 was slightly lower than that observed from 2018 to 2019 but higher than the average annual growth rate over the past decade.
- This is despite the approximately 5.6% drop in fossil fuel CO2 emissions in 2020 due to restrictions related to the pandemic. The Bulletin, as the WMO report is called, shows that the pandemic disruption in 2020 didn't significantly dent overall greenhouse gas emissions.
- For methane, the increase from 2019 to 2020 was higher than that observed from 2018 to 2019 and also higher than the average annual growth rate over the past decade.
- For nitrous oxides also, the increase was higher and also than the average annual growth rate over the past 10 years.

- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Annual Greenhouse Gas Index (AGGI) shows that from 1990 to 2020, radiative forcing by long-lived greenhouse gases (LLGHGs) increased by 47%, with CO2 accounting for about 80% of this increase.
- Concentration of carbon dioxide (CO2), the most significant greenhouse gas, reached 413.2 parts per million in 2020 and is 149% of the pre-industrial level. Methane (CH4) is 262% and nitrous oxide (N2O) is 123% of the levels in 1,750 when human activities started disrupting earth's natural equilibrium.

TRIGONOPTERUS CORONA



- On the Indonesian island of Sulawesi, museum scientists have discovered 28 new species of beetles. The species, all of which measure 2-3 mm, are described in the journal Zookeys.
- One of them has been named www.upschacks.com Trigonopterus corona.
 - This reflects the large impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on this project, Pensoft Publishers, which brings out the journal, said in a blog spot.
 - And it is not the only insect species to be named after the pandemic. In April, a new species of caddisfly (a moth-like insect) was collected near a stream in Kosovo by a team of scientists, and named Potamophylax coronavirus (Biodiversity Data Journal).
 - The same month, out of six new species of Brazilian wasps described in the Journal of Hymenoptera Research, one was named Allorhagas quarentenus, a reference to the quarantine, which occurred while the authors were describing the species.

 And earlier this month, out of five new wasp species discovered in Mexico, scientists named one Stethantyx covida (Zookeys).

AMUR FALCONS



- With the arrival of the migratory Amur falcons to Tamenglong district of Manipur for the annual stopover, State Environment Minister has appealed to the people not to hunt the seasonal visitors.
- The Amur falcon (Falco amurensis) is a small raptor of the falcon family. It breeds in south-eastern Siberia and Northern China before migrating in large flocks across India and over the Arabian Sea to winter in Southern and East Africa.
- These falcons visit the Tamenglong district of Manipur every year from breeding grounds in China and Russia before beginning their onward voyage to Africa for the winter — a journey of more than 30,000 km.

- Hunting of this bird is punishable under the Manipur Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and could lead to three years of imprisonment and a fine of ₹25,000.
- IUCN status is Least Concern.
- In another development, officials said the population of the brow-antlered deer (Sangai) found only in Manipur stood at fewer than 300 in its natural habitat, the 40 sq km Keibul Lamjao National park in Bishnupur district.

BARBADOS



- Barbados has elected its first President, a key step in preparations to become a republic and remove Britain's Queen Elizabeth II as head of state of the Caribbean island.
- Sandra Mason, the current governor-general, is set to be sworn in as President on November 30, the country's 55th anniversary of independence from Britain.
- In September 2020, Ms. Mason, 72, announced the break with Britain, saying "the time has come to fully leave our colonial past behind."
- Barbados is an island country in the Lesser Antilles of the West Indies, in the Caribbean region of the Americas, and the most easterly of the Caribbean Islands.
- Its capital and largest city is Bridgetown.
- It is at roughly 13°N of the equator.
- Barbados lies on the boundary of the South American and the Caribbean Plates.

'Blue Langurs' spotted in Gujarat's Ankleshwar



- 'Blue Langurs' have been spotted in Ankleshwar, Gujarat recently.
- The langurs with their fur coloured blue due to exposure to chemical-based dyes were spotted in Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation (GIDC) near Ankleshwar, Gujarat.
- It has highlighted the adverse impact of the industries operating in the town.
- Many of the chemicals used in the industrial units are carcinogenic and have been reported to cause skin ailments as well as cancers among workers.
- Locals have often spotted chemical-coloured stray dogs and birds in the town and its vicinity.

- Langur is the general name given to numerous species of Asian monkeys belonging to the subfamily Colobinae.
- The term is often restricted to nearly two dozen species of leaf monkeys but is also applied to various other members of the subfamily.
- The Common, Gray or Hanuman Langur (Semnopithecus entellus) is found across south Asia.
- Its 16 subspecies' range extends from the Himalayas in the north to peninsular India in the south.
- It is found both in forests and near human habitations.
- Ankleshwar is well-known for its industrial units manufacturing dyes and intermediates.
- The stretch between Ahmedabad and the industrial city of Vapi in Gujarat is known as the 'Golden Quadrilateral'.
- It is among the largest industrial clusters in Asia.