

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 dark car. 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

03.11.21

INFRASTRUCTURE FOR RESILIENT ISLAND STATES (IRIS)



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS) on sidelines of climate summit in Glasgow.

- Infrastructure for Resilient Island States or IRIS is the first major initiative by the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) started by India in 2019.
- IRIS seeks to operationalise the CDRI initiative.
- It is aimed at achieving sustainable development through a systematic approach to resilient, sustainable and inclusive infrastructure in Small Island Developing States (SIDS).
- Small island states are the most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. As sea levels rise, they face a threat of being wiped off the map.
- According to CDRI, several small island states have lost 9 per cent of their GDPs in single disasters during the last few years.

Indian Navy stealth frigate Tushil launched in Russia



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- The seventh Indian Navy frigate of the P1135.6 class was launched at the Yantar Shipyard at Kaliningrad in Russia.
- The ship has been formally named as Tushil, a Sanskrit word that means protector shield.
- Tushil will be commissioned into the Indian Navy in mid-2023 followed by its sister ship by the end of 2023.
- The ship has been developed under the Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) between India and Russia in 2016 for the construction of four additional P1135.6 class ships for Indian Navy.
- Out of the four ships, two ships of Project 1135.6 ships were to be constructed in Russia and two ships in India at M/s Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL).
- The Project 1135.6 class is also called Talwar class and the Talwar class frigates are built by Russia for Indian Navy.

RBI named Bandhan Bank as agency bank



- The Reserve Bank of India has now appointed Bandhan Bank as an Agency Bank of the RBI to conduct government business.

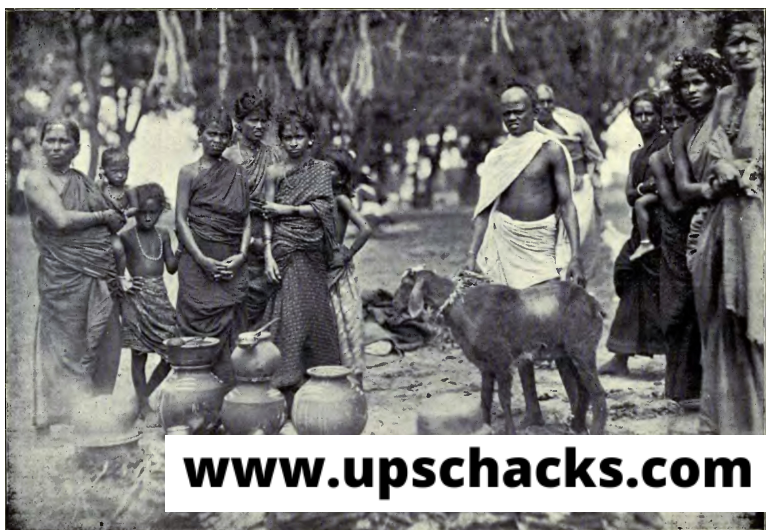
- Bandhan Bank now joins several other private banks that have been empanelled as an Agency Bank of the RBI.
- Bandhan Bank will now be authorised to handle transactions related to GST, VAT and the collection of state taxes.

List of Banks recently appointed as Agency Bank of RBI:

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- South Indian bank
- Karnataka bank
- DCB Bank
- RBL Bank
- Dhanlaxmi Bank
- IndusInd Bank
- Bandhan Bank

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VANNIYARS



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- The Madras High Court on Monday quashed the 10.5 per cent special internal reservation provided by the Tamil Nadu government to Vanniyars, a most backward caste (MBC).
- The court said the quota was ultra vires to the Constitution and noted how the state government - both the previous AIADMK that made the first move and DMK that implemented it - went ahead without any “quantifiable data” to support the decision.
- The Vanniyar, also spelled Vanniya, formerly known as the Palli, are a community or jāti found in the northern part of the Indian state of Tamil Nadu.
- Even as backward communities such as Thevars and Gounders are largely seen as Tamil Nadu’s socially and politically powerful communities, Vanniyars were one of the largest and most consolidated backward communities that had a consistency in retaining political representation from 1940s and 1950s.

NASA shares image of Cosmic Reef turned into sound, says it's 'beautifully eerie'



- **NASA's Hubble Telescope's Instagram page shared a video showing an image of Cosmic Reef turned into sound, saying that it's "beautifully eerie".**
- **The Cosmic Reef, which contains two nebulae, is 1,63,000 light-years away. In this sonification, blue, which indicates oxygen's presence, was assigned higher pitches and red, which indicates hydrogen and nitrogen, was assigned lower pitches, NASA said.**