

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 in the center and solid lines on the edges. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

[www.upschacks.com](http://www.upschacks.com)

# DAILY NEWS DECODE

04.12.21

# Kyhytysuka sachicarum



- Kyhytysuka means 'the one that cuts with something sharp' in an indigenous language from the region in central Colombia.
- It has been named so to honour the ancient Muisca culture that existed there for millennia.
- Kyhytysuka was a mid-sized ophthalmosaurus with heterodont dentition and several adaptations suggesting that it was a macropredatory vertebrate hunter living in shallow waters.
- The animal shows the evolution of a unique arsenal of teeth to devour its prey against other ichthyosaurs that had small, equally sized teeth for feeding on small prey.

- The researchers compared it with other Jurassic and Cretaceous ichthyosaurs and defined a new type of ichthyosaur.
- The first definitive ichthyosaur remains in Colombia were discovered in the 1970s in the Paja Formation of Villa de Leyva.
- Whereas other ichthyosaurs had small, equally sized teeth for feeding on small prey, this new species modified its tooth sizes and spacing to build an arsenal of teeth for dispatching large prey, like big fishes and other marine reptiles.
- The species comes from an important transitional time during the Early Cretaceous period when the Earth was coming out of a relatively cool period, had rising sea levels, and the supercontinent Pangea was splitting into northern and southern landmasses.

# Chardham project



- The Bill, aimed at bringing the 'Char Dham' or the four shrines of Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri and Yamunotri, besides 49 other temples, under the purview of a proposed shrine Board, was passed by the Assembly in December 2019.
- The shrine board is the highest governing body for the management of the 53 temples and has powers to frame policies, formulate the budget and sanction expenditure, among others.
- The board may also give directions for the safe custody, prevention and management of funds, valuable securities, jewellery and properties vested in the temples.

- **The decision will lead to the abolition of Uttarakhand Char Dham Devasthanam Management Board, which has been facing protests from priests and other stakeholders of four shrines.**
- **Char Dham Mahamarg Vikas Pariyojana (Char Dham Highway Development Project) is an initiative of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH).**
- **The Rs 12,000-crore highway expansion project was envisaged in 2016 to widen 889 km of hill roads to provide all-weather connectivity in the Char Dham circuit.**
- **It covers Uttarakhand's four major shrines — Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri and Yamunotri and part of the route leading to Kailash Mansarovar yatra.**
- **Uttarakhand State Public Works Department, Border Roads Organisation (BRO) and the National Highway & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited are the implementing agencies of the project.**

# Global Gateway initiative



- It is the new European Strategy to boost smart, clean and secure links in digital, energy and transport and strengthen health, education and research systems across the world.
- It is about increasing investments promoting democratic values and high standards, good governance and transparency, equal partnerships, green and clean, secure infrastructures and that catalyse private sector investment.
- The initiative aims at mobilising investments of up to 300 billion euros between 2021 and 2027 bringing together resources of the EU, member states, European financial institutions, private sectors and national development finance institutions.
- It is an offshoot of a plan by G7 countries to offer developing countries an alternative to the Belt and Road Initiative of China, presented in June at the industrial powers' summit in Cornwall.

## **The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)-**

- Formerly known as One Belt One Road (OBOR), it is the global development strategy initiated by the Government of China involving infrastructural development and direct investments in many countries across the continents of Asia, Europe, Africa and the Americas.**
- It was announced in 2013 by China's President Xi Jinping.**
- BRI aims to develop land and sea infrastructure to better connect China to Asia, Europe and Africa for trade and development.**
- BRI's goals include internal state-building and stabilisation of ethnic unrest for its vast inland western regions such as Xinjiang and Yunnan, linking these less developed regions, with increased flows of international trade facilitating closer economic integration with China's inland core**

# G20 'Troika'

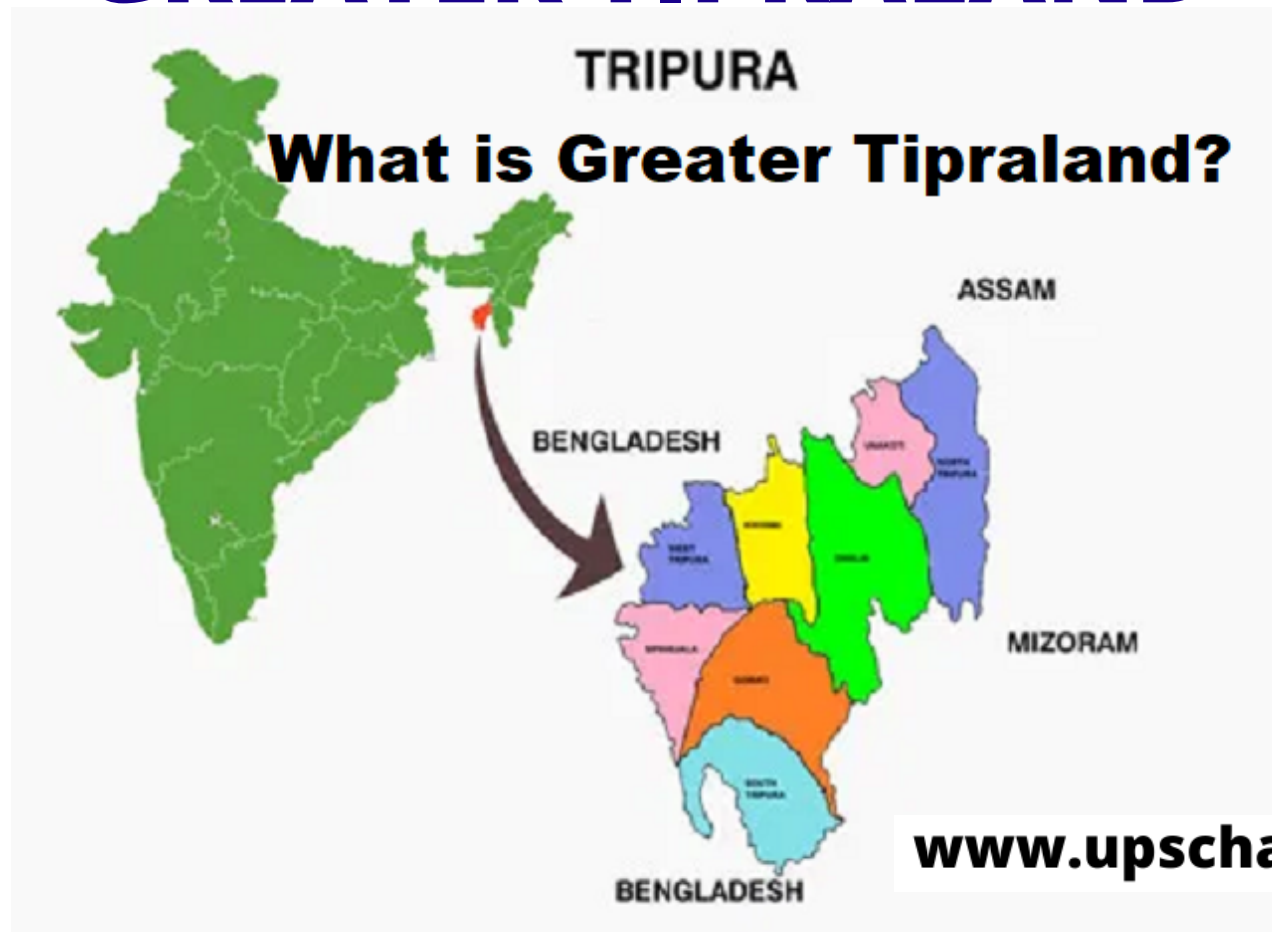


- Troika refers to the top grouping within the G20 that consists of the current, previous and the incoming presidencies — Indonesia, Italy and India.
- As a Troika member, India will work closely with Indonesia and Italy to ensure consistency and continuity of the G20's agenda.
- Italy hosted the G20 summit during October 30-31 2021. This summit focused on three broad, interconnected pillars of action: People, Planet, Prosperity.
- Indonesia took over the G20 presidency on December 1.
- It will convene the G20 Leaders' Summit scheduled for October 30-31, 2022 with the theme of 'Recover Together Recover Stronger'.



- **India will assume the G20 presidency on December 1, 2022 from Indonesia, and will convene the G20 Leaders' Summit for the first time in India in 2023.**
- **It is the international forum that brings together the world's major economies.**
- **Its members account for more than 80% of world GDP, 75% of global trade and 60% of the population of the planet.**
- **It is made up of 19 countries and the European Union.**
- **The 19 countries are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Germany, France, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, the UK, and the US.**
- **India has been a member of the G20 since its inception in 1999.**
- **The forum has met every year since 1999 and since 2008, including a yearly Summit, with the participation of the respective Heads of State and Government.**

# GREATER TIPRALAND



- Several tribal outfits in Tripura have joined hands to push their demand for a separate state for indigenous communities in the region, arguing that their “survival and existence” was at stake.
- Among the political parties that have come together for the cause are TIPRA Motha (Tipraha Indigenous Progressive Regional Alliance) and IPFT (Indigenous People’s Front of Tripura), which had so far been rivals in the electoral fray.
- The parties are demanding a separate state of ‘Greater Tipraland’ for the indigenous communities of the north-eastern state.

- They want the Centre to carve out the separate state under Article 2 and 3 of the Constitution.
- Among the 19 notified Scheduled Tribes in Tripura, Tripuris (aka Tipra and Tiprasas) are the largest. According to the 2011 census, there are at least 5.92 lakh Tripuris in the state, followed by Reangs (1.88 lakh) and Jamatias (83,000).
- Tripura was a kingdom ruled by the Manikya dynasty from the late 13th century until the signing of the Instrument of Accession with the Indian government on October 15, 1949.
- The demand mainly stems from the anxiety of the indigenous communities in connection with the change in the demographics of the state, which has reduced them to a minority. It happened due to the displacement of Bengalis from the erstwhile East Pakistan between 1947 and 1971.

# PAIKA REBELLION OF ODISHA



[www.upschacks.com](http://www.upschacks.com)

- The 1817 Paika rebellion of Odisha could not be called the first war of Independence, but considering it as a beginning of a popular uprising against the British, it would be included as a case study in the Class 8 National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) history textbook, the Union Culture Minister.
- The Culture Ministry had received a reference from the Odisha Chief Minister asking that the Paika rebellion be declared the first war of Independence.

- The minister said the matter was examined in consultation with the Indian Council of Historical Research, under the Union Education Ministry, and according to the comments by the Indian Council of Historical Research, the Paika rebellion could not be called the first war of Independence.
- However, from a historical point of view, it can be said that the 'Paika Bidroha', which was set off in March 1817 and continued until May 1825, had set an example for the classes as well as the masses in India to follow later on.
- Accordingly, considering that this is one of the beginnings of popular uprisings against the British in India, it has been decided to include it as a 'case-study' in the Class VIII history textbook of NCERT.

# Large part of Indian population has 'hybrid immunity', it's the strongest: Expert



- A large section of India's population has "hybrid immunity", CSIR-IGIB Director Dr Anurag Agrawal said, adding that it's the "strongest" type of immunity in view of the Omicron COVID-19 variant.
- Hybrid immunity is acquired through infection, recovery and subsequent vaccination. "Even one [COVID-19 vaccine] dose gives you good immunity if you've previously had an infection," he added.