

Current Affairs

09th January, 2024



Today's Important News

West Bengal Secures Geographical Indication (GI)
Tags for Sundarban Honey, Black Nunia Rice,
Tangail, Gorod & Kadiyal Sarees

1. West Bengal Secures Geographical Indication (GI) Tags for Sundarban Honey, Black Nunia Rice, Tangail, Gorod & Kadiyal Sarees

- In a significant stride towards safeguarding its cultural and agricultural heritage, West Bengal has successfully obtained Geographical Indication (GI) tags for several products under the National GI Drive Mission. The move aims to protect the unique identity and quality of regional products.
- As part of the GI protection initiative, these products now enjoy legal recognition and protection against unauthorized use, ensuring the economic prosperity of local communities and the preservation of West Bengal's diverse cultural and agricultural legacy.



Foot Note:

About West Bengal:

Capital: Kolkata

Chief Minister: Mamata Banerjee

Governor: C V Anantha Bose

National Parks: Neora Valley National Park

2. MoU for several investments to be signed on second day of global investors meet in Tamil Nadu

- During the Global Investors Meet, discussions were held on climate change, missions, circular economy, AI, and providing a robust environment for start-ups and SMEs. Climate protection teams will be created in every district. Industries were encouraged to develop initiatives to achieve zero carbon emissions.
- The Tamil Nadu Global Investors Meet 2024 has attracted record investments of ₹6.64 lakh crore, much higher than the estimated sum of about ₹5 lakh crore and doubled the investment that was attracted in the previous GIM held in 2019.



Foot Note:

About Tamil Nadu:

Capital: Chennai

Chief Minister: M. K. Stalin

Governor: R. N. Ravi

3. Gujarat to host tenth edition of Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit commencing in Gandhinagar

- Gujarat is all set to host the tenth edition of the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit commencing on the coming 10th of January at Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar. The Tenth edition will celebrate “20 Years of Vibrant Gujarat as the Summit of Success”. The theme of the summit this time is 'Gateway to the Future'.
- Akashvani's correspondent reports that the tenth edition of the summit is unique in many ways. The tenth edition Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit is being held after a gap of four years as the summit was canceled in 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The anamorphic projection facility will be used for the first time at the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit this year.



Foot Note:

About Gujarat:

Capital: Gandhinagar

Chief Minister: Bhupendrabhai Patel

Governor: Acharya Devvrat

4. India tops the list of source markets for tourism into Sri Lanka in 2023

- India has topped the list of source markets for tourism into Sri Lanka in 2023. The island has welcomed 1.487 Million tourists during the last year with India contributing over 20% arrivals. Tourism holds a pivotal position in Sri Lanka's economy as a top foreign revenue source.
- In all over 3 lakh Indian tourists reached Sri Lanka in 2023 followed by Russia which contributed 1.97 lakh. Tourism holds a pivotal position in Sri Lanka's economy as a top foreign revenue source. Tourism contributed 2.1 billion USD from 1.1 billion USD achieved in the previous year.



Foot Note:

About Sri Lanka:

Capitals: Colombo, Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte

President: Ranil Wickremesinghe

Prime Minister: Dinesh Gunawardena

5. Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Or NRI Day observed on 9th January

- Pravasi Bharatiya Divas or NRI Day is formally observed on 9 January to celebrate the day when Mahatma Gandhi returned from South Africa to Mumbai, India. The day is celebrated to acknowledge the contribution of the non-resident Indian community in helping in the development of the country.
- This day plays a significant role as the overseas Indian community gets a shared platform to get themselves engaged with the government and the native people of the land. The conventions are very useful in networking among the overseas Indian community residing in various parts of the world and enable them to share their experiences in various fields.



6. RBI gives clarity to 'politically exposed persons' term to meet FATF norms

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has updated Know Your Customer (KYC) norms for politically exposed persons (PEPs) who transact with regulated entities (REs), seeking to comply with the recommendations of intergovernmental organisation Financial Action Task Force (FATF),
- PEPs are individuals entrusted with prominent public functions by a foreign country, including the heads of states/governments, senior politicians, senior government or judicial or military officers, senior executives of state-owned corporations and important political party officials.



Foot Note:

About FATF :

Established : 1989

Headquarters: Paris, France

About RBI :

Established : 1 April 1935

Headquarters : Mumbai

Governor : Shaktikanta Das

Deputy governors : Mahesh Kumar Jain

7. Narayana Health gets IRDAI nod to launch health insurance business

- Narayana Health has received approval from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) to venture into the health insurance business in India.
- The company operates one of the largest hospital chains, known by the brand name Narayana Hospital. With this approval, the count of Standalone Health Insurance Companies (SAHI) will increase from 5 to 6.



Foot Note:

About IRDAI :

Established : 1999

Headquarters : Hyderabad, Telangana

Chairman : Debasish Panda

8. Tata Motors introduces 1st pure Electric Vehicle architecture called 'acti.ev'

- Tata Passenger Electric Mobility (TPEM) has launched its first advanced Pure EV architecture, acti.ev, and the Punch.ev, the first product based on this architecture. The Punch.ev can now be booked at Tata Motors showrooms and Tata.ev stores for a payment of ₹21,000.
- Tata Motors introduced the first pure electric vehicle (EV) architecture called 'acti.ev', which will underpin its future portfolio of EVs such as Punch, Sierra, Harrier and Curvv. Tata Motors holds more than 80% share in the electric car market.



Foot Note:

About Tata Motors:

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founder: J. R. D. Tata

Founded: 1945, Mumbai

9. 'India's oldest' sloth bear in captivity passed away in Bhopal zoo

- India's oldest female sloth bear, whose name was Gulabo, has passed away at the Van Vihar National Park and Zoo, located in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. Gulabo was the oldest sloth bear of the country. She died at the age of 40. She was rescued from a street performer (Madaari) in May 2006, when she was 25 years.
- Gulabo was one of the star attractions in the park. The Van Vihar National Park, located on the banks of Bhopal's Upper Lake, also runs a rescue and breeding centre for sloth bears. A 36-year-old male sloth bear died due to multi-organ failure at a zoo-cum-animal rescue centre in Madhya Pradesh capital Bhopal.



10. HFCL bags Rs 1,127 cr order to transform BSNL's Optical Transport Network

- It has secured a Rs 1,127 crore order from Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd (BSNL) aimed at transforming the Optical Transport Network (OTN) infrastructure across the state-owned telco's pan India network.
- HFCL's comprehensive network upgrade will not only cater to the requirements of enterprise and FTTH/broadband services but also position BSNL for the future with the seamless launch of 4G services and the anticipation of 5G services in the coming years.



Foot Note:

About HFCL:

Headquarters: Kolkata

Founded: 1819

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