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Important News: World

One Ocean Summit 2022



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address the high-level segment of **One Ocean Summit** on 11 February, 2022.
- The high-level segment of the Summit will also be addressed by several Heads of States and Governments including Germany, United Kingdom, South Korea, Japan, Canada, among others.
- **One Ocean Summit** is being organised by France from 9-11 February, 2022, in Brest, France, in cooperation with the United Nations and the World Bank.
- The objective of the Summit is to mobilise the international community to take tangible action towards preserving and supporting healthy and sustainable ocean ecosystems.
- Several important initiatives will be launched on this occasion in favour of marine ecosystem protection and sustainable fisheries, intended to fight pollution, in particular from plastics, respond to the impacts of climate change, as well as advocate for improved governance of the oceans.

Source: Business Today

India to provide grant to Sri Lanka to implement 'Unitary Digital Identity framework'

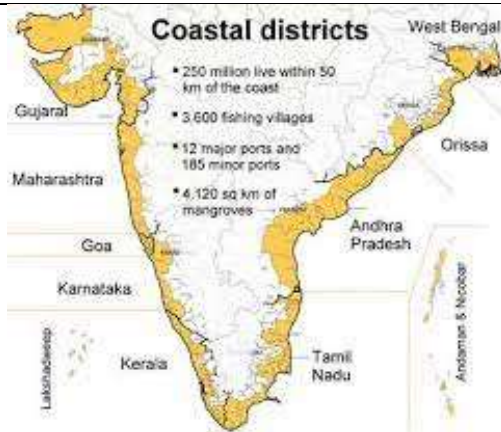


- India has agreed to provide a grant to Sri Lanka to implement a '**Unitary Digital Identity framework**', apparently modelled on the Aadhaar card.
- The government of Sri Lanka has decided to speed up the implementation of a Unitary Digital Identity framework in the country.
- This project comes amid substantive economic assistance from India, worth USD 1.4 billion to Sri Lanka, since the start of 2022 to help Sri Lanka cope with its dollar crunch, and import food, medicines and fuel due to shortages.

Source: newsonair

Important News: India

Coastal Vulnerability Index



- **Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS)** has carried out coastal vulnerability assessment for the entire Indian coast at state level to bring out an Atlas comprising 156 maps on 1:1,00,000 scales to prepare a **Coastal Vulnerability Index (CVI)**.

About Coastal Vulnerability Index (CVI):

- The maps determine the coastal risks due to future sea-level rise based on the physical and geological parameters for the Indian coast, the CVI uses the relative risk that physical changes will occur as sea-level rises are quantified based on parameters like: tidal range; wave height; coastal slope; coastal elevation; shoreline change rate; geomorphology; and historical rate of relative sea-level change.
- Coastal vulnerability assessments can be useful information for coastal disaster management and building resilient coastal communities.

Source: The Hindu

'Accelerate Vigyan' Scheme



- **Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB)**, a statutory body established through an Act of Parliament, has invited applications under 'ABHYAAS', a program of 'Accelerate Vigyan' Scheme, for summer season.
- In a recent notification, the call for applications under components of "KAARYASHALA" and "VRITIKA" for the summer season (May 2022-July 2022) is extended till 28 February 2022.

About "Accelerate Vigyan" (AV) Scheme:

- "Accelerate Vigyan" (AV) strives to provide a big push to high-end scientific research and prepare a scientific workforce, which can venture into research careers and a knowledge-based economy.

- AV aims to expand the research base in the country, with three broad goals — consolidation / aggregation of all scientific training programs, initiating high-end orientation workshops and creating opportunities for training and skill internships.

Source: DTE

Important News: State

India's first biomass-based hydrogen plant coming up in Madhya Pradesh



- The country's first commercial-scale biomass-based hydrogen plant is coming up in the Khandwa district of Madhya Pradesh.
- The plant will produce a tonne of hydrogen per day, from 30 tonnes of biomass feedstock.
- It will also produce biochar and methane.
- The plant is being put up by a joint venture of Watomo Energies Ltd and Biezel Green Energy with an investment of ₹24 crore.

Source: The Hindu

Important News: Science

National Centres of Excellence in Carbon Capture & Utilization



- Two National Centres of Excellence in **Carbon Capture and Utilization (CCU)** are being established in India.
- The two Centres, namely the **National Centre of Excellence in Carbon Capture and Utilization (NCoE-CCU)** at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay, Mumbai and the **National Centre in Carbon Capture and Utilization (NCCCU)** at Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific

Research (JNCASR), Bengaluru are being set up with support from the Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India.

- Carbon Capture and Utilization (CCU) is among one such key pathways to reduce emissions while continuing to develop sustainably at an unprecedented pace. CCU aligns with five of the seventeen sustainable development goals (SDGs), namely, climate action; clean energy, industry, innovation, and infrastructure; responsible consumption and production; and partnerships to achieve the goals.

Source: PIB

India's newest mammal: White Cheeked Macaque



- Scientists from the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) have found a new mammal species in the country — the White Cheeked Macaque.
- Macaque was first discovered in China in 2015, its existence was not known in India before this.
- It is only now that Indian scientists have discovered its presence in the remote Anjaw district in central Arunachal Pradesh.
- The White Cheeked Macaque has distinct white cheeks, long and thick hair on the neck and a longer tail than other Macaque species.
- It is the last mammal to have been discovered in Southeast Asia.

Source: Indian Express

Important News: Important Days

International Day of Women and Girls in Science



- International Day of Women and Girls in Science is celebrated on 11 February every year.

Theme:

- Towards the achievement of SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), the International Day of Women and Girls in Science Assembly 2022 will focus on the following theme: "Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: Water Unites Us".

History:

- The International Day of Women and Girls in Science is the 11th day of February, by resolution of the United Nations General Assembly on 22 December 2015.

Source: un.org

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