

Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

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National and International News

Origin of Tamili script

Why in news?

 Recent scientific analysis has pushed back the origin of the Tamil-Brahmi script to the 6th century BCE.

Key points:

- New Scientific Dates: Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (AMS) dating has pushed the origin of the Tamili script back by a hundred years.
- Previous Belief: Initially thought to date back to the 6th Century BCE based on 2019 AMS dating.
- Revised Date: New findings indicate the script originated in the 7th Century BCE.
- Earliest Date: 685 BCE from Sivagalai in Thoothukudi district. Tamil Nadu.
- Significance of the Discovery:
 - Challenges the earlier belief that Brahmi scripts were introduced during Asokan times.
 - Literacy Evidence: Inscribed potsherds found across Tamil Nadu show the penetration and level of literacy during Early Historic times.
 - Widespread Use: Inscriptions engraved with personal names by common people reflect widespread script use.
- Impact on India's History:
 - Historical Timeline: Implications for India's historical timeline, pushing back the Sangam era by three hundred years.
 - Efforts to Rewrite History: Scientific efforts to rewrite India's history from Tamil Nadu gained momentum after findings in 2019 and 2021.

Two-state solution

Mediterranean Sea WEST BANK Ramallani Jarusalem GAZA ISRAEL JORDAN EGYPT Pre-1967 ceasefire lines

Why in news?

 India, one of the first countries to recognize Palestine, has long supported the two-state solution to resolve the Israel-Palestine conflict.

About Two-state solution:

- The two-state solution refers to the proposal to establish two separate states for Israelis and Palestinians, aiming to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
- Historical Context:
 - The concept dates back to the early 20th century, notably with the 1937 Peel Commission and the 1947







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	UN Partition Plan. The 1947 UN plan proposed the creation of independent Arab and Jewish states alongside an internationalized Jerusalem. Key Agreements and Efforts: Oslo Accords (1993-1995): A series of agreements between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) that aimed to achieve a peace treaty based on UN Resolutions 242 and 338 and the establishment of a Palestinian state. Camp David Summit (2000): U.S. President Bill Clinton's attempt to mediate a final status agreement, which ultimately failed. Roadmap for Peace (2003): A plan proposed by the Quartet (UN, EU, US, and Russia) that envisioned a two-state solution by 2005. Main Components: Borders: Establishment of recognized borders between Israel and a future Palestinian state, likely based on the pre-1967 boundaries with mutually agreed land swaps. Jerusalem: Jerusalem's status as the capital of both states, with special arrangements for holy sites. Security: Measures to ensure security for both states, addressing Israeli concerns about terrorism and Palestinian concerns about sovereignty. Refugees: A solution to the Palestinian refugee issue, balancing the right of return with practical resettlement and compensation.
Pampa Lake	 Why in news? A team from the Karnataka State Department of Archaeology Museums and Heritage has discovered rock shelter paintings estimated to be around 2,500 years old near Pampa Lake in the Hampi World Heritage Area. About Pampa lake: Location: Pampa Sarovar is located near Hampi in the state of Karnataka. Significance: It is one of the five sacred sarovars (lakes) mentioned in Hindu scriptures. Mythological Importance: Associated with the legend of Lord Rama and Sita from the Ramayana. It is believed to be the place where Shabari, a devotee of Lord Rama, met him and offered him berries. Nearby Attractions: Close to other significant sites in Hampi, including the Virupaksha Temple and the Tungabhadra River.
Colombo Process	Why in news?





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 India has become chair of regional grouping Colombo Process for the first time since its inception in 2003.

About Colombo Process:

- Establishment: The Colombo Process was established in 2003.
- Purpose: It is a regional consultative process on the management of overseas employment and contractual labor for countries of origin in Asia.
- **Member Countries**: The member countries include Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, **India**, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam.
- **Objective**: The main objectives are to optimize the benefits of organized labor migration, protect migrant workers' rights, and prevent illegal migration.
- Key Areas of Focus:
 - Skills and Qualification Recognition
 - Ethical Recruitment
 - Pre-departure Orientation and Empowerment Remittance
 - o Return and Reintegration
- Chairmanship: The chairmanship of the Colombo Process rotates among member countries.
- Secretariat: The International Organization for Migration (IOM) serves as the secretariat for the Colombo Process.
- Collaborations: It collaborates with various international organizations, including the IOM, International Labour Organization (ILO), and United Nations (UN) agencies.

Hoolock Gibbons



Why in news?

- The Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) has allocated funds to build canopy bridges in eastern Assam.
- These bridges will help Hoolock Gibbons, India's only apes, cross a railway track that divides their primary habitat.

About Hoolock Gibbons:

- **Scientific Name**: Hoolock hoolock (Western Hoolock Gibbon) and Hoolock leuconedys (Eastern Hoolock Gibbon).
- Family: Hylobatidae.
- Distribution:
 - Western Hoolock Gibbon: Found in northeastern India, Bangladesh, and Myanmar.
 - **Eastern Hoolock Gibbon**: Found in northeastern **India** and parts of Myanmar.
- Habitat: Primarily inhabits tropical and subtropical evergreen forests and occasionally in semi-evergreen forests.
- Behavior:
 - Arboreal and brachiating (swinging from branch to branch).





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0	Diurnal (active during the day).		
0	Highly territorial and live in monogamous pairs with		

their offspring.

Conservation Status:

 Western Hoolock Gibbon: Classified as Endangered by the IUCN.

Eastern Hoolock Gibbon: Classified as Vulnerable by the IUCN.

Kerala Regional News

Jeevanandam scheme	 Why in news? The Kerala government has introduced the Jeevanandam scheme. However, the scheme has sparked protests because it excludes government contributions and aims to use employee funds to cover state expenses.
	 About Jeevanandam scheme: Purpose: The scheme aims to provide a fixed monthly amount to government employees upon their retirement. Implementation: The government deducts a fixed amount from the salary of government employees every month to fund this scheme. Benefit: Once employees retire, they receive a regular monthly payment through the annuity scheme. Financial Burden: While the scheme benefits retired employees, the proposed deduction from current employees' salaries may be a heavy burden. Insurance Protection: It remains unclear whether employees will receive any insurance protection under this scheme.
Digital re-survey	 Why in the news? The digital re-survey in Kerala is progressing, and the first phase is nearing completion. This initiative aims to update land records and improve accuracy by leveraging digital technology. About Digital re-survey: Objective: To update and digitize land records in Kerala. Launched by: Government of Kerala. Key Features: Comprehensive Re-survey: Covers all land parcels in the state.





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	 Modern Technology: Utilizes drones, GPS, and other advanced tools for precise measurements. Digital Records: Converts land records into digital format for better transparency and accessibility. Integration: Linked with Kerala State Spatial Data Infrastructure (KSDI). Public Participation: Includes awareness campaigns to involve and inform the public. Implementation: Managed by the Kerala State Land Board.
Aspinwall House	 Why in the news? The Aspinwall House in Fort Kochi has a rich history and cultural significance. The Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), Kochi, has urged the government to preserve this iconic heritage building and continue hosting the Kochi-Muziris Biennale there.
	 About Aspinwall House: Location: Fort Kochi, Kerala Historical Significance: Established in 1867 by English trader John H. Aspinwall Architecture: Colonial-style building with large courtyards, open spaces, and traditional Kerala elements Function: Originally a business house dealing in various commodities like spices, tea, coffee, rubber, and coir Cultural Importance: Hosts the Kochi-Muziris Biennale, an international exhibition of contemporary art, since 2012 Ownership: Managed by a private trust dedicated to the arts and cultural heritage
Vimukthi programme	Why in the news? • Menstrual hygiene week as part of Vimukthi programme celebrated in Kochi. • The event was jointly organized by: • Indian Oil Corporation Limited • Excise Department-Vimukthi Mission • HLL Management Academy
	About Vimukthi programme: Objective: To combat drug abuse and alcoholism, creating a drug-free society. Launched by: Government of Kerala. Launch Date: 2016. Primary Focus: Awareness and preventive education. De-addiction and rehabilitation. Legal and enforcement measures.





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	 Implementation Agencies: Various government departments including Health, Education, and Social Justice, along with non-governmental organizations. Target Audience: Youth, school and college students, and vulnerable populations in society.
Kerala Public Service Commission	 Why in the news? The Kerala government is planning to increase the salary of the PSC chairman and members despite a severe financial crisis. About Kerala Public Service Commission: Establishment: The Kerala Public Service Commission was established in 1956. Constitutional Authority: KPSC is a constitutional body under Article 320 of the Indian Constitution. Function: Responsible for conducting civil service examinations and recruitment for various positions in the state of Kerala. Headquarters: Located in Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. Chairman: The current Chairman of KPSC is Dr.M.R Baiju

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