



16 September 2024

**Kerala Regional News**

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| <p><b>NSG - 2 Category</b></p>                                  | <p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recently, four railway stations have joined the Rs 100 crore club.</li> <li>These include <b>Kollam, Pallakad Jn., Kannur and Ernakulam Town.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Key Points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Railway authorities have proposed to elevate these new stations to <b>NSG 2 (non-suburban group) category.</b></li> <li>Any railway station, which <b>generates annual passenger earnings between ₹100 crore to ₹500 crore or has handled 10 to 20 million outward passengers a year,</b> is categorized as a NSG-2</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Onam Festival</b></p>                                     | <p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recently, Onam festival has been celebrated on September 15.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Onam is a <b>major harvest festival in Kerala and is celebrated to honor the home-coming of Asura king Mahabali</b> who brought about peace and prosperity in Kerala.</li> <li>It is <b>one of the three major festivals of Kerala,</b> celebrated during the <b>month of Chingam, the first month in the Malayalam calendar, Kollavarsham.</b></li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>Kasavu Sarees</b></p>                                     | <p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <b>Kasavu sari,</b> distinguished by its golden borders, plays a vital role in <b>Onam celebrations.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Key Points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kasavu sarees are a <b>symbol of tradition and cultural identity</b> in Kerala.</li> <li>The Kasavu saree serves as a <b>symbol of unity and equality among the women of Kerala, transcending differences in age, caste, or religion.</b></li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>Species in news:</b><br/><b>Alexandrine parakeets</b></p> | <p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recently, a group of <b>Alexandrine parakeets,</b> rare and the largest among the parrots named after <b>Alexander the Great,</b> was spotted in a natural habitat in Pathanamthitta.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Points:</b></p>   |



## Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia



- Alexandrine parakeets are **near threatened** due to population decline in their native range.
- They are sporadic in **South India, uncommon in Bangladesh, and declining in North Bengal and parts of Sri Lanka.**

Person in news: Sitaram Yechury



### Why in news?

- Recently, CPM general secretary Sitaram Yechury has passed away.

### Key Points:

- Sitaram Yechury (12 August 1952 – 12 September 2024) was an **Indian Marxist politician and the General Secretary of the Communist Party of India (Marxist)**, who was a member of the Politburo of the CPI(M) since 1992.
- At the young age of 33, Com. Sitaram was **elected as a member of the Central Committee and at just 40 years of age, he became a member of the Polit Bureau of the CPI(M).**

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