





06 July 2024

National and International News

<p>Li-Fi (Light Fidelity) technology</p>	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telecom startup Velmenni has received a grant from the Ministry of Defence (MoD) under the Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) initiative for its innovative Li-Fi (Light Fidelity) technology. <p>About Li-Fi technology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Li-Fi (Light Fidelity) is a mobile wireless communications technology that uses light instead of radio frequencies to transmit data. • Developed by Professor Harald Hass. • Utilizes special LED (light-emitting diode) bulbs for data transmission. • Offers high-speed, bidirectional, and fully networked wireless communication using light. • Requires only a light source with a chip to transmit an internet signal via light waves. • Delivers data through visible, infrared, or ultraviolet light. • Provides wireless connections over 100 times faster than Wi-Fi due to light's larger bandwidth compared to radio waves. • Achieves delivery speeds up to 224 GB per second. • Applications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Internet access, ○ Phone-to-phone or phone-to-TV communications, and ○ Emerging use cases like extended or mixed reality. • Enhances data security as signals do not pass through walls. • Suitable for use in areas where radio frequency is undesirable, such as hospitals, airplanes, or underwater environments.
<p>Moidams</p> 	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) has recommended the inclusion of the Ahom era 'Moidams' in Assam's Charaideo district, the resting place of royal families, in the UNESCO World Heritage List. <p>About Moidams:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moidams (Maidams): Mound-burial system of the Ahom dynasty (13th century-19th century). • Comparison: Similar to the royal tombs of ancient China and the Pyramids of the Egyptian pharaohs. • Ahom Dynasty: Ruled for about 600 years until the British annexed Assam in 1826.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Charaideo District: First capital of the Ahom dynasty, founded by Chao Lung Siu-Ka-Pha in 1253. ● Cremation Shift: After the 18th century, Ahom rulers adopted Hindu cremation methods, entombing the cremated bones and ashes in a Moidam at Charaideo. ● Cultural Spread: With the shift of the Ahom capital south and eastwards, Moidams have been seen in Northern Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, Northern Burma, Southern China, and Northeast India, marking the region of Tai-Ahom culture.
<p>International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS)</p>	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) has recommended the inclusion of the Ahom era 'Moidams' in Assam's Charaideo district, the resting place of royal families, in the UNESCO World Heritage List. <p>About ICOMOS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Established: 1965 ● Headquarters: Paris, France ● Purpose: Promote the conservation, protection, use, and enhancement of monuments, building complexes, and sites. ● Type: Non-governmental international organization ● Role: Advisory body to UNESCO on World Heritage Sites ● Membership: Open to individuals and institutions involved in the conservation and protection of cultural heritage. ● Major Documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Venice Charter (1964): An international charter for the conservation and restoration of monuments and sites. ○ The Burra Charter (Australia ICOMOS, 1979): Guidelines for the conservation of places of cultural significance in Australia.
<p>Common Grass Yellow butterfly</p> 	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A large-scale migration of the Common Grass Yellow butterfly was observed for the first time during a recent three-day survey at the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve (MTR). <p>About Common Grass Yellow butterfly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Distribution: Found across Asia, North America, Africa, and Australia. ● Habitat: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Prefers open grassy or bushy terrain. ○ Flies quickly, close to the ground. ● Features: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Wings: Vibrant yellow, ranging from sultry sulfur to lush lemon yellow, displaying 'seasonal polyphenism'. ○ Behavior: Often seen in large groups, with females flying solo to find nectar from a variety of plants. ● Migratory Patterns: Migrates in large numbers across Africa



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	<p>and most of Asia south of the Himalayas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conservation Status: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ IUCN Red List: Least Concern. ○ Not protected under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
<p>National Green Hydrogen Mission</p>	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has recently issued guidelines for funding testing facilities, infrastructure, and institutional support. ● This funding is aimed at developing standards and a regulatory framework under the National Green Hydrogen Mission. <p>About National Green Hydrogen Mission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Aim: To make India a global hub for producing, utilizing, and exporting Green Hydrogen and its derivatives. ● Components of the Scheme: ● Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition Programme (SIGHT): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Targeting domestic manufacturing of electrolyzers. ○ Production of Green Hydrogen. ● Pilot Projects: Support for pilot projects in emerging end-use sectors and production pathways. ● Green Hydrogen Hubs: Identification and development of regions capable of supporting large-scale production and/or utilization of Hydrogen. ● Public-Private Partnership for R&D: Facilitation of the Strategic Hydrogen Innovation Partnership (SHIP). ● Skill Development Programme: Implementation of a coordinated skill development programme under the Mission.



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