



17 July 2024

Andhra Pradesh State Regional News

Erra Matti Dibbalu	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erra Matti Dibbalu, known for its striking red sand dunes, is a significant geological and environmental site in Visakhapatnam, India. • Recently, concerns have mounted over the degradation of Erra Matti Dibbalu due to various human activities. <p>About:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This National Geo-Heritage Monument, one of the last three remaining gullied red sand dune formations in Southeast Asia, has recently suffered due to various human activities, endangering its preservation. • Beyond its geological significance, Erra Matti Dibbalu falls within the Coastal Regulatory Zones (CRZ)-I and CRZ-III, earning it the status of a protected site by the State government in 2016. <p>Significance and Formation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red coastal sand dunes are part of the continuation of the evolution of the earth and represent the late quaternary geologic age. • Such sand deposits have been reported only from three low latitude tropical regions in South Asia, the Teri Sands of Tamil Nadu, the Erra Matti Dibbalu in Andhra Pradesh and Red Coastal Sands of Sri Lanka. • Such features do not occur in equatorial regions or temperate regions due to many scientific reasons. • Erra Matti Dibbalu were formed due to sea-land interaction. • The dunes consist of a mixture of sand (40-50 percent), silt and clay (another 50 percent) with oxidation giving the unique red colour. • This site has been declared as a geo-heritage site by the Geological Survey of India (GSI) in 2014. • The government of Andhra Pradesh has listed it under the category of 'protected sites' in 2016. • The red sand sediments are unconsolidated and loose. • Every monsoon the sediments are washed away, turning the sea a bright red. • Degradation due to human interference such as digging, climbing, littering is affecting their stability. • The area displays badland topography with different geomorphic landforms, including gullies, sand dunes, buried channels, beach ridges, paired terraces, the
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	<p>valley in the valley, wave-cut terrace, knick point and waterfalls.</p>
<p>FSSAI Lab</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) has decided to enhance quality control measures for Prasadams and Annaprasadams by collaborating with the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI). <p>Establishment of FSSAI Lab</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TTD's Executive Officer, J Syamala Rao, has directed officials to facilitate the establishment of a dedicated FSSAI lab in Tirumala. The lab aims to scientifically verify the quality of ingredients used in Prasadams, Annaprasadams, and Jala Prasadam. <p>Role of FSSAI:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FSSAI will oversee the quality of raw materials and assist in sourcing the best ingredients economically. The initiative will adhere strictly to FSSAI's guidelines during the tendering process for raw material procurement.
<p>Renaming of Aarogyasri Health Insurance Scheme and Other Initiatives</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On July 13, 2024, the Chandrababu Naidu government issued an official order to rename the Aarogyasri Health Insurance Scheme in Andhra Pradesh. Previously known as Dr. YSR Arogyasri, the scheme will now be called Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao Vaidya Seva, as per an order issued by Krishna Babu, Special Chief Secretary of the Medical and Health Department. <p>Historical Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Aarogyasri health scheme was originally launched in 2007 by the late Chief Minister YS Rajasekhara Reddy. The recent renaming reflects a shift in political legacy and administrative direction under the current government. <p>Other Renamed Schemes:</p> <p>In addition to the Aarogyasri Health Insurance Scheme, several other government initiatives have undergone name changes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Dr. YSR Arogyasri Healthcare Trust is now known as Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao Vaidya Seva Trust, aligning with the renaming of the health insurance scheme. <p>Agricultural Initiatives:</p>



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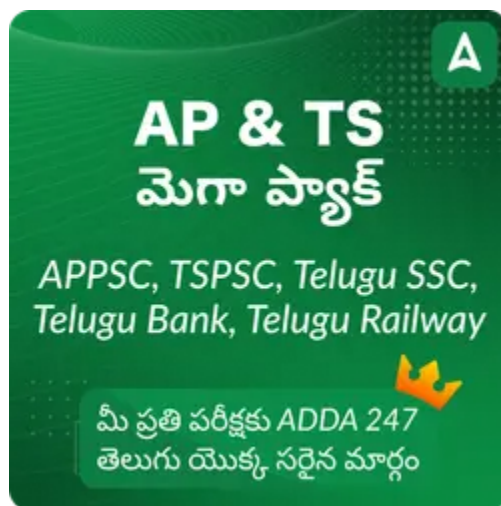
- E-crop has been rebranded as **e-panta**.
- YSR Rythu Bharosa-PM Kisan is now **Annadata Sukhibhava**.
- YSR Zero Interest Crop Loans Scheme has been simplified to interest-free loans.
- Dr. YSR Free Crop Insurance Scheme under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) has also been renamed.

Farm Mechanization and Technology:

- **YSR Yantra Seva Scheme** for farm mechanization is now referred to as the **farm mechanization scheme**.
- Dr. YSR Agri Testing Labs have been renamed as **Integrated Agri Labs**.
- YSR Yantra Seva Kendras have been rebranded to **Village/Cluster CHCs**.

Technological Integration:

- The YSR app has been relaunched as the **VAA Performance Monitoring app**, marking a shift towards enhanced performance monitoring and technological integration in governance.



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