



19 July 2024

Andhra Pradesh State Regional News

<p><b>Palnadu Prakriti Pathalu programme</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Palnadu Forest Department has initiated the '<b>Palnadu Prakriti Pathalu</b>' programme aimed at enhancing student awareness about forest conservation and biodiversity.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This programme spans <b>1.50 lakh hectares</b> in the district, focusing on <b>educational field trips and curriculum-based activities related to forests, wildlife, and ecosystem services.</b></li> <li>Collaboration involves various NGOs, environmentalists, nature enthusiasts, and animal welfare organizations to create engaging and practical sessions.</li> </ul> <p><b>Programme Activities</b> The initiative includes diverse educational activities such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seed ball preparation</li> <li>Live snake rescue demonstrations</li> <li>Forest visits</li> <li>Special wildlife presentations</li> <li>Nursery tours in Kotappakonda</li> <li>Camera trap operations for monitoring tiger movements</li> </ul>
<p><b>Seshachalam: Potential New Habitat for Nallamala Tigers</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Forest Department tracked the movement of two tigers through the <b>corridor linking Nallamala and Seshachalam forests.</b></li> <li>This monitoring suggests tigers might be exploring new habitats due to population growth in <b>Nallamala.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Conservation Efforts and Habitat Details:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Nagarjuna Sagar Srisailem Tiger Reserve spans 3,727 sq km across Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.</li> <li>Home to Bengal Tigers and diverse fauna: Leopards, Sloth Bears, Wild Dogs, Pangolins, various deer species, Black Bucks, Chowsingas, Porcupines, Muger Crocodiles, Pythons, Cobras, and Peafowls.</li> <li>Conservation strategies, including saucer pits and check dams, have doubled the tiger population from 45 in 2010 to over 80 in 2024.</li> </ul> <p><b>Territorial Behavior of Tigers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tigers are territorial and mark their areas based on water and prey availability.</li> </ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conflict with other tigers or the search for better conditions may drive them to new territories.</li> </ul> <p><b>Forest Corridor Connectivity:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The forest corridor is a narrow patch connecting Nallamala and Seshachalam forests through <b>regions like Racherla, Giddalur, Porumamilla, Badvel, Siddavatam, Vontimitta, Rajampet, and Railway Koduru.</b></li> <li>Connects Nagarjuna Sagar Srisailem Tiger Reserve with Sri Venkateswara National Park, Lankamalla Reserved Forest, and Sri Penusila Narasimha Wildlife Sanctuary.</li> </ul> <p><b>Current Status of Seshachalam:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No resident tigers in Seshachalam as of now.</li> <li>Transit tigers may return to Nallamala due to familiar water sources and ample prey.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Market Borrowings by States</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The states of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh have recently engaged in <b>significant market borrowings amidst growing financial demands to support welfare schemes and government operations.</b></li> <li>These borrowings, facilitated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), feature unusually long repayment periods, which are seen as beneficial for managing state finances.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key points:</b></p> <p><b>Andhra Pradesh Borrowings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Total Amount: ₹1,000 crore.</li> <li>Repayment Term: 16 years, 7.33% interest rate.</li> </ul> <p><b>Benefits of Long-Term Borrowing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduces immediate financial burden on state governments.</li> </ul> <p>Facilitates easier financial planning and management for repayment.</p> <p><b>Comparison with Other Regions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jammu and Kashmir, among other regions, has raised bonds with a much longer repayment term of 27 years.</li> </ul>
<p><b>ISRO Sets Ambitious Goal to Land on Moon by 2040</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has <b>set an ambitious goal to achieve a Moon landing by 2040.</b></li> <li>This announcement was made by <b>A. Rajarajan, a prominent scientist and Director of the Satish</b></li> </ul>



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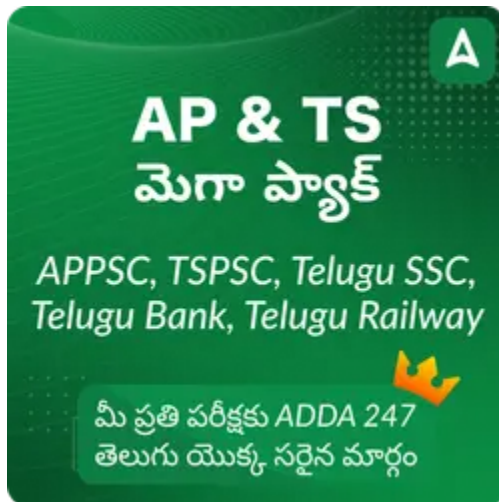
**Dhawan Space Centre** at ISRO, during a recent international conference.

**ISRO's 2040 Goal:**

- ISRO aims to land on the Moon by 2040, with plans to gather and test minerals from the Moon and Mars.
- Achievements and Innovations:
- The organization has made notable achievements in space exploration and continues to innovate in the field.

**Sustainability Practices:**

- At Sriharikota, where the space centre is located, only 1-2% of the land is used for space activities. The rest is preserved as dense forest to promote environmental sustainability.
- Attention is also given to maintaining ecosystem balance and water resources.



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