



30 July 2024

Telangana State Regional News

<p>Ajanta Gallery</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ajanta Gallery, housed within the Telangana State Museum in Hyderabad, features eye copies of Buddhist paintings from the renowned Ajanta Caves, located in Maharashtra. • These paintings, which are over a century old, have suffered from a lack of maintenance, resulting in their current deteriorated condition. • The gallery, which showcases some of these historical reproductions, is poised for a major overhaul to better preserve and present these cultural treasures. <p>About:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ajanta Caves, situated in Maharashtra's Aurangabad district, are a UNESCO World Heritage Site. • The artwork within these caves was created between the 2nd and 1st centuries BCE during the Satavahana period, and later between the 5th and 6th centuries CE during the Vakataka period. • The Ajanta Gallery displays eye copies of Ajanta Caves' paintings, created over 100 years ago. • Notable pieces include the Bodhisattvas, the Shaddanta Jataka, and the Simhala Avadana murals. <p>Future Plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department of Archaeology and Museums has over 180 eye copies, with some on display and others stored or loaned. • Restoration efforts are underway in collaboration with the Noor International Microfilm Centre (NIMC) from Iran. • Plans include revamping the gallery, rotating displayed paintings, and improving the lighting system.
<p>'Vishwambhara' Award</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy honored Tamil writer Sivashankari with the Dr. C. Narayana Reddy National Literary Award, also known as the 'Vishwambhara' award.



	<p>About:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Viswambara Award is an annual literary award established by the renowned Telugu poet and writer, C. Narayana Reddy. • Named after his wife, Susheela, this award is presented to female writers in recognition of their contributions to literature. • C. Narayana Reddy is celebrated for his poetic work “Viswambara,” which earned him the prestigious Jnanpith Award in 1988. • This work is a philosophical long poem that explores themes of universal brotherhood and the quest for the meaning of life.
<p>Blackbucks rescue centre at Narayanpet</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To address the persistent problem of blackbucks and spotted deer damaging crops in Narayanpet district, the Forest department is establishing a rescue centre. • This initiative aims to capture and relocate these animals to more appropriate habitats, thereby alleviating the issues faced by local farmers. <p>Blackbuck:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blackbuck (Indian Antelope) is a species of antelope native to India and Nepal. • They inhabit grassy plains and thin forest areas. • Habitat: In India, they can be found in three clusters spanning across the states of Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, and other areas of peninsular India. • Features: Males have corkscrew-shaped horns and black-to-dark brown coats, and females are fawn-coloured. <p>Threats faced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dense human habitation makes it difficult for them to migrate from one cluster to another. • Illegal hunting • Decrease in habitat due to expansion of agriculture <p>Protection Status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildlife Protection Act 1972: Schedule I • IUCN Status: Least Concerned • CITES: Appendix III.



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