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National and International News

<p>X-band radar</p>	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Union Ministry of Earth Sciences has approved the installation of an X-band radar in Kerala's Wayanad district following recent devastating floods and landslides. <p>About X-band radar:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emits radiation in the X-band (8-12 GHz) of the electromagnetic spectrum. • Corresponds to wavelengths of approximately 2-4 cm. • Shorter wavelengths result in higher resolution images. • Higher frequency radiation experiences faster attenuation. • Applications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Can monitor particle movements, such as soil, aiding in landslide warnings. ○ Performs high temporal sampling, enabling detection of quick particle movements. ○ Commonly used in studies on cloud development and light precipitation. ○ Detects tiny water particles and snow effectively.
<p>Kalleshwar Temple</p>	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 13th-century stone inscription, or Veeragallu, was recently uncovered during the renovation of the ancient Kalleshwar temple. <p>About Kalleshwar Temple:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location: Hindu temple in Bagali town, Davangere district, Karnataka. • Deity: Dedicated to Lord Shiva. • Historical Significance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Construction spans the rule of two Kannada dynasties: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Rashtrakuta Dynasty (mid-10th century). ■ Western Chalukya Empire, during the reign of King Tailapa II (around 987 AD). • Structure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Comprises a sanctum (garbhagriha), an antechamber (antarala), a gathering hall (sabhamantapa), and a main hall (mukhamantapa).



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The tower over the antarala is called the sukhanasi. ● Shikara: Features early Cholan architectural style. ● Shivalinga: The temple houses a large Shivalinga believed to be over a thousand years old. ● Cultural Status: Protected as a monument of national importance by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).
<p>Mission for Advancement in High-Impact Areas -Electric Vehicle (MAHA- EV)</p>  <p>ANRF Initiates Prime Minister Early Career Research Grant Empowers and supports the early career researchers in their pursuit of research excellence, providing them with an enabling environment to effectively conduct research with ease and flexibility.</p> <p>Eligibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Applicant holding a PhD/MD/MS/MDS/MCh/FC degree and working in recognized institutions ■ Age limit: 42 years (with 3-year relaxation for SC/ST/OBC/differently-abled & women candidates) ■ Applicant is eligible to apply within two years of joining the institution* <p>* Grant Amount: Rs 60 lakh plus overhead for 3 years * Maximum of 200 grants per year</p> <p>Start Date: 14.10.2024 *See the notification Last Date: 31.11.2024 Details available at www.anrfonline.in</p> <p>ANRF launches 1st Mission for Advancement in High-Impact Areas (MAHA)- EV Mission</p> <p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance domestic R&D capabilities on Electric Vehicle (EV) components to achieve strategic advantages in EV for self-reliance and global competitiveness • Position India as a hub for development of EV components <p>Technology Verticals for establishment of a Nodes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tropical EV Batteries & Battery Cells • Power Electronics, Machines, and Drives (PEMD) • Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure <p>General Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants (Lead PI and PI) must hold a regular academic/research position in a recognized academic institution/national laboratory/other recognized R&D institution in India with a proven track record in the relevant domain. • Participation of relevant industry/PSU/start-ups is mandatory <p>Stakeholders Meeting October 26, 2024 (11 AM onwards) at BT-Bombay</p> <p>Visit anrfonline.in Timeline Call Opening Date: 14.10.2024 Call Closing Date: 25.11.2024</p>	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) has launched the MAHA-EV Mission, focusing on the advancement of high-impact areas in electric vehicles. <p>About MAHA- EV:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Focus: Development of key EV technologies to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reduce dependency on imports. ○ Promote domestic innovation. ○ Position India as a global leader in the EV sector. ● Program: Part of ANRF's Advancement in High-Impact Areas (MAHA) program, designed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Catalyze multi-institutional, multi-disciplinary collaboration. ○ Tackle critical scientific challenges. ● Objective: Accelerate technological advancements in key sectors to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Impact the nation's future growth. ○ Create global standing in key areas. ● Technology Verticals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tropical EV Batteries and Battery Cells. ○ Power Electronics, Machines, and Drives (PEMD). ○ Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure.
<p>Nagarjunsagar-Srisaillam Tiger Reserve (NSTR)</p>	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● According to the recently released 'EnviStats India-2024' report, the Nagarjuna Sagar-Srisaillam Tiger Reserve (NSTR) ranks first among India's 55 tiger reserves for its leopard population, with an estimated 360 leopards. <p>About NSTR:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Location: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Situated in the Nallamala hill ranges (offshoot of the Eastern Ghats) in Andhra Pradesh. ○ Largest tiger reserve in India, spanning 5937 sq. km. ○ Hosts the largest tiger population in the Eastern Ghats.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Named after Nagarjuna Sagar Dam and Srisailem Dam. ○ Consists of Rajiv Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary and Gundla Brahmeswaram Wildlife Sanctuary (GBM). ○ River Krishna flows through the reserve for around 270 km. ● Vegetation: Tropical dry deciduous forests with bamboo and grass undergrowth. ● Flora: Endemic species: Andrographis nallamalayana, Eriolaena lushingtonii, Crotalaria madurensis Var, Dicliptera beddomei, Premna hamiltonii. ● Fauna: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Top predators: Tiger, Leopard, Wolf, Wild Dog, Jackal. ○ Prey species: Sambar, Chital, Chowsingha, Chinkara, Mouse Deer, Wild Boar, Porcupine. ○ River fauna: Muggers, Otters, Turtles.
Biopolymers	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● India's first Demonstration Facility for Biopolymers was recently inaugurated in Pune by the Union Minister. <p>About Biopolymers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Manufactured from biological sources like fats, vegetable oils, sugars, resins, and proteins. ● Have more complex structures than synthetic polymers, making them more active in vivo. ● Biodegradable and easily decomposed by bacteria in soil, unlike synthetic polymers which cause pollution through incineration. ● Benefits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide levels and decrease carbon emissions. ○ Bio-degradation releases carbon dioxide that is reabsorbed by crops used in place of the biopolymers.



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