




21 January 2025

Andhra Pradesh State Regional News

<p>Places in news: Pulicat Lake & Nelapattu bird sanctuary</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The three-day Flamingo Festival concluded with speakers urging the protection of biodiversity in the ecologically sensitive Pulicat Lake and Nelapattu Bird Sanctuary. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> About Pulicat Lake <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pulicat Lake is located on the Coromandel Coast of India, between the states of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. It is the second-largest brackish water lake in the country (next to Chilika in Odisha). The lake is separated from the Bay of Bengal by Sriharikota Island, home to the Satish Dhawan Space Centre. Pulicat Lake Bird Sanctuary is located within the lake and hosts a rich biodiversity of birds and aquatic life. Major inflows to the lake include Arani, Kalangi, and Swarnamukhi rivers, while the Buckingham Canal serves as a navigation channel. The Flamingo Festival is an annual event that promotes tourism in this region. About Nelapattu bird sanctuary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Named after the village – ‘Nelapattu’, located just adjoining in the Sanctuary in Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh is this wetland mainly for migratory water birds. The local people of Nelapattu, Muchalagunta, Mylangam, etc; protect the birds as “celestial birds”, as their arrival brings good rains and good crops. <p>What is the Flamingo Festival?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is an annual event celebrating the arrival of migratory birds, focusing on flamingos, to Pulicat Lake and Nelapattu Bird Sanctuary.
<p>PM Surya Ghar Scheme</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vizianagaram District Collector B. R. Ambedkar urged people to take advantage of the Surya Ghar scheme, which aims to promote solar power generation and reduce electricity bills. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is a government scheme launched on February 15, 2024, that aims to provide free electricity to households in India. Under the scheme, households will be provided with a subsidy to install solar panels on their roofs.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The subsidy will cover up to 40% of the cost of the solar panels. • Eligibility: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The household must be an Indian citizen. ○ The household must own a house with a roof that is suitable for installing solar panels. ○ The household must have a valid electricity connection. ○ The household must not have availed any other subsidy for solar panels.
<p>Etikoppaka wooden toy</p> 	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andhra Pradesh will showcase its 400-year-old legacy of eco-friendly Etikoppaka Bommalu wooden toys in a tableau during the Republic Day parade on Kartavya Path in New Delhi. • The toys, a culturally significant heritage craft, were selected from various themes presented by officials. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located on the banks of the river Varaha in Visakhapatnam district of AP, is a small village called Etikoppaka. • Made in the Etikoppaka region of Andhra Pradesh, these toys are made with lacquer color and are traditionally known as Etikoppaka toys or Etikoppaka Bommalu. • The toys are also called lacquer toys because of the application of lacquer coating. • These are well known for canon toys, lord Ganesha form and bullock etc. • The toys are made out of wood and are coloured with natural dyes derived from seeds, lacquer, bark, roots and leaves. The wood used to make the toys is soft in nature and the art of toy making is also known as Turned wood Lacquer craft.
<p>National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC)</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dravidian University in Kuppam is all set for its second National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) accreditation cycle from January 22 to 24. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is an autonomous body of the University Grants Commission (UGC), under the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD). • It was established in 1994 in pursuance of the recommendations made by the National Policy of Education, 1986, and the Programme of Action (POA), 1992, which lay special emphasis on evaluating the quality of higher education in India. • Headquarter: Bengaluru. • Function: Evaluation, assessment, and accreditation of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in the country.



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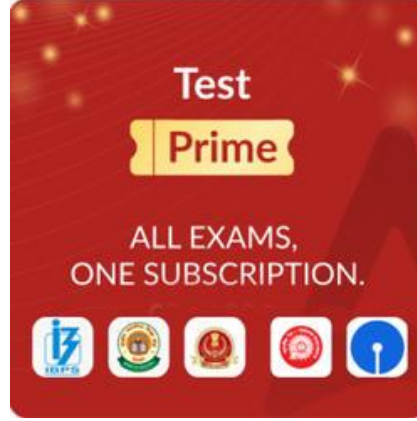
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