

### NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

An international team of scientists have found a remarkable type of fossilisation that has remained almost entirely overlooked until now. The fossils are microscopic imprints, or 'ghosts,' of single celled plankton, called coccolithophores, that lived in the seas millions of years ago, and their discovery is changing our understanding of how plankton in the oceans are affected by climate change. Declines in the abundance of coccoliths fossils have been documented from multiple past global warming events, suggesting that these plankton were severely affected by climate change and ocean acidification. But a study found (Science) new global records of abundant ghost fossils from three Jurassic and Cretaceous warming events (94, 120 and 183 million years ago), suggesting that coccolithophores were more resilient to past climate change than was previously thought.

A bacteria have been discovered in Antarctica with genes that give them natural antibiotic and antimicrobial resistance and have the potential to spread out of the polar regions, according to scientists in Chile. Scientists from the University of Chile collected several samples from the Antarctic Peninsula. They found that the Pseudomonas bacteria, one of the predominant bacteria groups in the Antarctic Peninsula, are not pathogenic but can be a source of 'resistance genes', which are not stopped by common disinfectants such as copper, chlorine or quaternary ammonium.

The Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) has issued a draft National Data Governance Framework to mobilise nonpersonal data of citizens for use by both public and private entities to improve services. The draft policy proposes the launch of a nonpersonal data based India datasets programme and addresses the methods and rules to ensure that nonpersonal and anonymised data from both government and private entities are safely accessible by the research and innovation ecosystem.

The government on Saturday said it will develop a framework to keep a check on fake reviews posted on ecommerce websites to protect consumer interest. The Consumer Affairs Ministry, along with the

### RECOGNITION OF COMMUNITY FOREST RIGHTS

1.The Chhattisgarh government has become only the second state in the country to recognise Community Forest Resource (CFR) rights of a village inside a national park.

2.Community Forest Resource-The community forest resource area is the common forest land that has been traditionally protected and conserved for sustainable use by a particular community. The community uses it to access resources available within the traditional and customary boundary of the village for seasonal use of landscape in case of pastoralist communities Each CFR area has a customary boundary with identifiable landmarks that may include forest of any category – revenue forest, classified & unclassified forest, deemed forest, DLC land, reserve forest, protected forest, sanctuary and national parks etc.

3.**Community Forest Resource rights-The Community Forest Resource rights are provided under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act.** It provides for recognition of the right to "protect, regenerate or conserve or manage" the community forest resource. It allows the community to formulate rules for forest use by itself and others and thereby discharge its responsibilities.

4.CFR rights, along with Community Rights which include nistar rights and rights over non-timber forest products ensure sustainable livelihoods of the community. These rights give the authority to the Gram Sabha to adopt local traditional practices of forest conservation and management within the community forest resource boundary.

5.Significance of the recognition of CFR rights-To undo the historic injustice meted out to forest-dependent communities due to curtailment of their customary rights over forests. To recognize the community's right to use, manage and conserve forest resources. To legally hold forest land that these communities have used for cultivation and residence.

### HYDERABAD'S DRUG TRAFFICKING PROBLEM

1.There is worry that Hyderabad is possibly emerging as the primary conduit for drug trafficking in India.

2.Case with respect to Hyderabad drug trafficking-The Hyderabad police conducted a raid at a place where the kin of prominent filmstars, bureaucrats, politicians and rich businessmen were partying. The police suspect that many high-end pubs and star hotels have become hubs for narcotic drugs, despite strict surveillance.

3.**Over half-a-dozen foreign national drug carriers, mostly Tanzanian nationals were arrested and huge quantities of heroin and cocaine were seized. The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) and Customs officials believe that the drug smuggled from African countries was meant to be supplied to peddlers and abusers in major cities in north India,** but not to Hyderabad. This once again led to discussions that the capital of Telangana was possibly emerging as a primary conduit for drug trafficking in the country.

4.Reason for rise in drug cases-NCB officials estimate that there are around 10 crore drug users in India. More than 70% of the drugs are smuggled into the country through international sea routes, while 20% comes through roadways and the rest by air. Internet- Internet-based end-to-end encrypted messaging mobile applications have provided a secure communications network for the drug cartels, middlemen and the abusers. Easy visas- With a growing number of expats, visas are being issued easily nowadays. Low surveillance- The city airport is being used as a safe transit point by the drug cartels in Africa as the surveillance is low when compared to other international airports in the country.

5.What lies ahead-Coordination among agencies which work against drug smuggling, including Customs, the Enforcement Directorate, the DRI, the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), the Central Industrial Security Force and the Intelligence Bureau is the need of the hour. Apart from law enforcement agencies, it is high time civil society and youth organisations also play a role

**Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI), held a virtual meeting on Friday with stakeholders, including ecommerce entities, to discuss the magnitude of fake reviews on their platforms. Fake reviews mislead consumers into buying online products and services.**

**The southwest corner of the Amazon Basin was once the site of complex urban settlements built by the ancient civilisations. Researchers used a laser remote sensing technology called lidar to map land inhabited by the Casarabe culture, which existed around AD 500 to 1400, in what is now Bolivia.**

**There has been an unprecedented spread of the H5N1 strain of avian influenza in wild birds. The virus seems to be spreading in wild birds more easily than ever before. The infected wild birds then spread the virus around the world, posing a significant risk to vulnerable species, which makes the virus hard to contain.**

**Parrots use their heads to propel themselves while climbing — an acrobatic feat that has not been witnessed in any other creature so far. The researchers, who have been studying this aspect, concluded that the parrot's head has been repurposed to function as a third limb — countering the idea that animals never have three limbs.**

**Tomato plants that produce a precursor to vitamin D could one day provide an animal free source of the crucial nutrient. As scientists did not insert new genes —they just switched one off, a mutation that could also have occurred naturally — these tomato plants will face fewer regulations in many countries.**

**The vertebral column is important to the structure of your body, allowing you to stand erect, and to do yoga. This flexibility comes from 33 interlocked vertebrae. It is a marvel of evolutionary and engineering design, seeing us humans through feats involving stress and strain.**

**As the Quad grouping of India, Australia, Japan and the U.S. looks to roll out an Indo-Pacific maritime domain awareness (MDA) initiative for information sharing and maritime surveillance across the region, two issues limit India's ability to further expand its role, say government officials. These are infrastructure constraints and continued delay in posting Indian liaison officers at other facilities and centres in the region. "There is interest and there are requests from several countries to post**

in controlling this problem by educating people about drug abuse.

### **ELIMINATION OF MEASLES AND RUBELLA BY 2023**

- 1.The Government decided to reset the Measles-Rubella elimination target to 2023 as COVID 19 pandemic stole two years from the programme.
- 2.Measles and rubella-Measles- Measles (also called rubeola) is a very contagious respiratory viral infection that causes a total-body skin rash and flu-like symptoms. It is transmitted person-to-person via droplets when infected people sneeze or cough. Initial symptoms usually occur 10–12 days after infection and comprise high fever, runny nose, bloodshot eyes and Koplik's spots (tiny white spots on the inside of the mouth).
- 3.Several days later, a rash develops and the most severe complication includes blindness, encephalitis (an infection that causes brain swelling), severe diarrhea and pneumonia. There is no specific medical treatment. Rubella- Rubella is a viral disease caused by the rubella virus that mostly affects the skin and lymph nodes.
- 4.In kids, rubella (commonly called German measles or 3-day measles) is usually a mild illness. But the infection is dangerous for pregnant women because it can cause serious health problems in their babies. Rubella is transmitted in airborne droplets from the nose, mouth or throat of infected people.
- 5.Vaccination-The MR vaccine is a combined product, targeting two diseases in one shot. Two doses of MR vaccine should be given at 9-12 months and 16-24 months of age. However, if a child misses the scheduled dose, MR vaccine can be given till 5 years of age. For epidemiological reasons, rubella vaccination had to cover children up to 15 years. The same vaccine is being given in routine Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP) of India.

### **NECHIPHU TUNNEL**

- 1.Border Road Organisation (BRO) has successfully completed the excavation work of the Nechiphu Tunnel.
- 2.The tunnel is located in Arunachal Pradesh. The Tunnel is located at an altitude of 5,700 feet.
- 3.It is located on the Balipara-Charduar-Tawang (BCT) Road in West Kameng district.

### **PAPER IMPORT MONITORING SYSTEM**

- 1.The Ministry of Commerce and Industry has amended the import policy of major paper products from "Free" to "Free subject to Compulsory Registration" under PIMS.
- 2.It makes registration compulsory for importing 201 types of paper such as newsprint, handmade paper, envelopes etc. It excludes currency paper, security printing paper etc.

### **FIRST MOVERS COALITION**

- 1.India recently joined a global public-private partnership initiative called the First Movers Coalition.
- 2.**The initiative was launched by President of the USA Joe Biden and the World Economic Forum (WEF) at COP26.**
- 3.The coalition seeks to decarbonise the heavy industry and long-distance transport sectors that are responsible for 30 percent of global emissions.

### **WEF'S ALLIANCE OF CEO CLIMATE ACTION LEADERS-INDIA:**

- 1.The World Economic Forum has announced a new 'Alliance of CEO Climate Action Leaders India' that will work towards fast-tracking decarbonisation pathways along India's net-zero journey.
- 2.**It is a part of the WEF's Climate Action Platform. Aim: To fast-track India's climate action and decarbonisation efforts.**
- 3.Participants: It is a collaboration between Kearney and Observer Research Foundation and brings together chief executives from India's leading businesses.

### **PEOPLE'S BIODIVERSITY REGISTER**

- 1.Kolkata has become the first major metropolitan city to prepare a detailed register of biodiversity i.e. PBR. PBR contains comprehensive information on locally available Bio-resources including landscape and demography of a particular area or village.
- 2.Need for: The Biological Diversity Act 2002 has made it

**international liaison officers (ILO) at the Indian Navy's Information Fusion Centre Indian Ocean Region (IFCIOR) but it cannot induct any more at the moment due to infrastructure constraints.**

**India has not registered any case of monkeypox so far, but the disease that is spreading globally is being tracked closely, officials said on Saturday. The country is also monitoring the alert by the World Health Organization to the rise in reported cases of acute hepatitis of unexplained cause in children from some parts of the world, a Union Health Ministry official said.**

mandatory for every local self-governing institution in rural and urban areas to constitute Biodiversity Management Committees within their area of jurisdiction.

**3.** Once constituted, BMC must prepare a PBR in consultation with local people.