



06 November 2024

Kerala Regional News

World Bank	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The World Bank has approved a \$200 million project to support farmers in Kerala adapt to climate change and promote agri-entrepreneurs to market value-added products. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project will help strengthen the resilience of the state's agricultural sector to climate change and benefit about 400,000 farmers through better access to climate-smart practices. The loan from the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), the multilateral development bank World Bank's lending arm, has a final maturity of 23.5 years, including a grace period of 6 years. <p>Refer to Addapedia notes for detailed info on World Bank.</p>
Election Commission	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Election Commission of India has rescheduled assembly by-elections to 14 seats in Kerala, Punjab and UP from November 13 to November 20. <p>About:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Election Commission of India (ECI) is a constitutional body responsible for conducting elections in India. It is a permanent body, established under Article 324 of the Constitution. The ECI ensures free, fair, and impartial elections for the Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, State Legislative Assemblies, and the offices of President and Vice President. <p>Structure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chief Election Commissioner (CEC): The CEC is the head of the ECI. He is appointed by the President of India. Election Commissioners (ECs): Two ECs are appointed by the President on the recommendation of the CEC. Secretariat: The ECI has a Secretariat in New Delhi, which is headed by a Secretary General. The Secretariat consists of various departments, such as the Law Department, the Election Rolls Division, the Publicity Division, and the Expenditure Monitoring Division.
Mahatma Award	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UST, a leading digital transformation solutions company, has once



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again been recognized for its outstanding commitment to corporate social responsibility (CSR).

- For the **third consecutive year**, the company has been awarded the prestigious **Mahatma Award for CSR Excellence**.

About:

- The **Mahatma Award** is an honour bestowed upon individuals and organisations who have made significant contributions to social impact and positive change.
- Inspired by the life and teachings of Mahatma Gandhi, the award recognizes those who embody the values of peace, non-violence, and selfless service.

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