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Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

23 April 2024

Maharashtra State Specific News

<p>Pench Tiger Reserve (PTR)</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The number of tourists visiting the Pench Tiger Reserve (PTR) in Maharashtra has doubled.• It has doubled from 41,000 during the pre-Covid period (2020-21) to over 1 lakh visitors in 2023-24. This increase coincides with the silver jubilee of the park. <p>About Pench Tiger Reserve (PTR):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pench Tiger Reserve is located in the southern part of the Satpura mountain ranges in Maharashtra, stretching into Madhya Pradesh.• It covers a large area and features a mix of tropical moist, dry deciduous forest, and tropical dry deciduous forest.• Pench Tiger Reserve gained international fame as the setting for Rudyard Kipling's classic novel "The Jungle Book," which features the fictional Mowgli's adventures.
<p>Chaitra Yatra of Jyotiba</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Chaitra Yatra of Jyotiba which is celebrated annually in Kolhapur, Maharashtra.• The procession of Sasan-Kathis (huge decorated bamboo sticks) commenced in the presence of Kolhapur district collector. <p>About Chaitra Yatra of Jyotiba:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The deity of the temple, Shri Jyotiba or Kedareshvar, is believed to be an incarnation of Brahma, Vishnu, and Shiva.• According to legend, Vishnu, Brahma, and Shiva came together to incarnate as the deity Jyotiba who eventually destroyed the evil demon Ratnasura.• Jyotiba also helped Goddess Mahalakshmi, the presiding deity of Kolhapur, in her fight with the demons.• The original temple was constructed by Navji Saya, and the present temple was constructed by Ranoji Shinde in 1730 AD.



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<p>India's first Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) powered bus</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Maharashtra has launched India's first Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) powered bus.● The bus will be operated by the Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation (MSRTC). <p>About LNG powered bus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● MSRTC plans to convert 5000 of its diesel vehicles to LNG alternative fuel vehicles in phases.● MSRTC has signed an MoU with M/s Kings Gas for the conversion of buses to LNG.
<p>Chief Minister Vayoshree Yojana</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● The Maharashtra government has introduced a new scheme called the 'Chief Minister Vayoshree Yojana' for senior citizens.● The scheme is set to benefit around 15 lakh senior citizens suffering from physical or mental disabilities. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Under this scheme, eligible citizens above the age of 65 will receive financial assistance of three thousand rupees.

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Digital certificates initiative in Maharashtra

Why in news?

- Maharashtra is taking a significant step towards digitization by using blockchain technology to issue certificates.
- The Maharashtra State Board of Skill Development has decided to issue blockchain-based certificates to students.
- Around 10 lakh digital certificates will be issued to diploma holders of eight educational years.

Key points:

- The state government has partnered with blockchain startup Zupple and its blockchain-based application LegitDoc to issue tamper-proof digital documents.
- This system can help issue and verify digital documents that can be verified from anywhere around the world, within seconds.
- Zupple tied up with the Maharashtra government and started issuing blockchain “caste certificates” to up to 65,000 tribals in Gadchiroli in a bid to stop fraudulent claims on government benefits for the disadvantaged.

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