



27 July 2024

## National and International News

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| IndiaAI Mission | <p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>AI Mission</b>, With fresh budgetary allocation, the <b>IT Ministry</b> looks to procure up to 500 GPUs.</li> </ul> <p><b>About IndiaAI Mission:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Initial Steps:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tender to <b>procure 300 to 500 GPUs for private sector AI development.</b></li> <li>○ Focus on <b>AI compute, skilling, data sets, and applications.</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Mission Goals:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Establish computing capacity of over 10,000 GPUs.</b></li> <li>○ <b>Develop foundational AI models with over 100 billion parameters.</b></li> <li>○ <b>Models trained on datasets covering major Indian languages</b> for sectors like <b>healthcare, agriculture, and governance.</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Public-Private Partnership Model:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>50% viability gap funding for computing infrastructure.</b></li> <li>○ Rs 4,564 crore earmarked for building computing infrastructure.</li> <li>○ Rs 2,000 crore allocated for <b>deeptech startup financing.</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>IndiaAI Innovation Research Centre:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Develop and deploy large foundational AI models.</b></li> <li>○ Focus on indigenous Large Multimodal Models and domain-specific foundational models.</li> <li>○ Rs 2,000 crore allocated for the research centre.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Educational Support:</b> Financial support for 4,000 BTech, 400 MTech, and 600 PhD candidates <b>focusing on AI in premier institutions.</b></li> </ul> |
| Moidams         | <p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● In a significant cultural achievement for India, "<b>Moidams – the Mound-Burial System of the Ahom Dynasty</b>" from Assam has been <b>officially inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Key points:</b></p>   |



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- The announcement was made on July 26, 2024, during the **46th session of the World Heritage Committee** in New Delhi.
- This marks the **43rd property from India to be included on the list**.
- This is the **third World Heritage Property from Assam**, following **Kaziranga National Park** and **Manas Wildlife Sanctuary**, both inscribed under the **Natural category** in 1985.

### About Moidams:

- **Location:** Foothills of the **Patkai Ranges** in eastern Assam.
- **Historical Context:**
  - Created by the **Tai-Ahom people** who arrived in Assam in the **13th century**.
  - **Charaideo** was established as their **first city and site of the royal necropolis**.
  - Moidams were **constructed from the 13th to the 19th century CE**.
- **Construction:**
  - **Early mounds were made of wood; later ones built with stone and burnt bricks**.
  - Known as "**home-for-spirit**," incorporating natural elements like hills, forests, and water.
  - Documented in **Changrung Phukan**, traditional **Tai-Ahom literature**.

### Mission Karmayogi

### Why in the news?

- Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh stated that the Government launched the **National Program for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB)**, also known as **Mission Karmayogi**, to **recognize and enhance the crucial role of Civil Services** in achieving India's developmental aspirations and national priorities.

### About Mission Karmayogi:

- **Launch Date:** September 2020
- **Objective:** To **enhance the capacity and competency of civil servants** to align with India's developmental aspirations and national priorities.
- **Key Components:**
  - **iGOT Karmayogi:** An online learning platform offering courses and training programs.
  - **Competency Framework:** Focuses on improving domain knowledge, functional skills, and behavioral competencies.
  - **Capacity Building Commission:** Oversees the



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|             | <p>implementation and regulates standards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Governance:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Prime Minister's Human Resource Council:</b> Provides strategic direction.</li> <li>○ <b>Cabinet Secretariat Coordination Unit:</b> Manages the implementation.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Implementation Approach:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Emphasizes continuous learning and development.</li> <li>○ Involves both on-site and digital learning methods.</li> <li>○ Encourages a <b>shift from rule-based to role-based human resource management.</b></li> <li>○ <b>Target Audience:</b> All civil servants from the central and state governments.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Innovative Features:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Customized learning paths for individual needs.</li> <li>○ <b>Real-time monitoring and evaluation of progress.</b></li> <li>○ <b>Integration of best practices and global learning resources.</b></li> <li>○ Mission Karmayogi aims to create a competent civil service that can <b>effectively tackle current and future challenges, driving India's growth and development.</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>                      |
| Dark oxygen | <p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Scientists discover 'dark oxygen'</b> produced on a deep-ocean floor where the Sun doesn't shine.</li> </ul> <p><b>About Dark oxygen:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Discovery of Dark Oxygen:</b> New evidence suggests <b>oxygen can be produced by electrolysis on the ocean floor, challenging traditional views of the origin of life.</b></li> <li>● <b>Photosynthesis vs. Electrolysis:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Traditionally, oxygen supporting life is produced by photosynthetic organisms (plants, algae).</li> <li>○ <b>New discovery shows oxygen can be produced 4,000 meters below the surface through electrolysis.</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Polymetallic Nodules:</b> <b>Electric voltage</b> in seabed mineral masses (polymetallic nodules) <b>can split seawater into oxygen and hydrogen.</b></li> <li>● <b>Dark Oxygen:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Oxygen produced in the absence of sunlight is termed "dark oxygen".</b></li> <li>○ Previous evidence of bacteria producing oxygen without photosynthesis (e.g., <i>Candidatus MethyloMirabilis oxyfera</i>).</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |



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|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Significance of Discovery:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ First evidence of oxygen production at the seafloor.</li> <li>○ Challenges the belief that deep-sea oxygen comes solely from the atmosphere and photosynthesis.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Implications for Origin of Life:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Questions the long-standing understanding of how life began on Earth.</b></li> <li>○ Suggests dark oxygen production in the deep sea is more significant than previously thought.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>NuMI Off-axis ve Appearance (NOvA) Experiment</b></p> | <p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● New data from the <b>NOvA experiment adds to the mystery of neutrino mass.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>About NOvA experiment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Experiment Purpose:</b> Study of neutrinos, one of nature's most elusive particles.</li> <li>● <b>Management:</b> Managed by the <b>U.S. Department of Energy's Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory (Fermilab).</b></li> <li>● <b>Location:</b> Fermilab is located outside of <b>Chicago, USA.</b></li> <li>● <b>Neutrino Beam:</b> Fermilab sends a beam of neutrinos 500 miles north to Ash River, Minnesota.</li> <li>● <b>Research Focus:</b> <b>Measuring neutrinos and their antimatter partners, antineutrinos,</b> at both locations.</li> <li>● <b>Phenomenon Studied:</b> Neutrino oscillation, which is the change in type of neutrinos as they travel.</li> <li>● <b>Aim:</b> To learn more about the ordering of neutrino masses.</li> </ul> |

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