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Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

13 December 2023

National and International News

SC upholds repeal of J&K's special status



Context

- A Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court **unanimously upheld the power of the President to abrogate the special status of Jammu and Kashmir.**
- This was done under Article 370 of the Constitution, leading to the reorganization of the **full fledged State to two Union Territories** and the removal of its privileges.

About special status of J&K

- On **5th August 2019**, the President of India in the exercise of the powers conferred by **Article 370(1)** of the Constitution issued the **Constitution (Application to Jammu and Kashmir) Order, 2019.**
- Through this, the Government of India has made modifications to Article 370 itself (not revoked it).
- The **Constitution (Application to Jammu and Kashmir) Order, 2019** has replaced the **Presidential Order of 1954.**
- Subsequently, the **Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Bill, 2019**, passed by Parliament divides the state of Jammu and Kashmir into two new Union Territories (UTs): **Jammu & Kashmir, and Ladakh.**
- This was further challenged in the supreme court.

Important articles:-

- Article 370 under Part XXI **empowers Jammu & Kashmir to have its own constitution.**
- It grants autonomous status to J&K.
- It restricts Parliament's legislative powers in respect of J&K.
- Article 35A, incorporated into the Constitution in 1954, **provides special rights and privileges to the citizens of the state.**
- Article 35A gives the Jammu & Kashmir Legislature full discretionary power to decide who the **'permanent residents' of the state are.**

Pakadwa vivah practice of Bihar

Context

Recently, the **Patna High Court** has nullified a forced marriage, commonly referred to as "**pakadwa vivah**," which occurred a decade ago.

About

- It is a **traditional practice in the state of Bihar.**
- In 'Pakadwa Vivah', neither the consent of the boy nor the girl is taken for marriage. **Boys are taken hostage by kidnapping or coaxing** and then married to a girl as per customs and traditions.
- In this, the wishes of the boy and girl, who become bride and groom, have no importance

Documentary on 'Naatu Naatu' lyricist wins award

Context

- A documentary on Oscar award winning lyricist Subhash



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Chandrabose has won an award at **12th Mumbai Shorts International Film Festival**.

- He is famous for the '**Naatu Naatu**' song from the Telugu movie **RRR**

Key points

- The documentary, produced and directed by **senior journalist Chilkuri Sushil Rao** was given a **special mention award** at the festival
- **Mr. Chandrabose** won the **Oscar for Best Original Song** at the **95th Academy Awards**.

Web browsers

- **Web browsers** is an **application** that people use to **send and receive messages via the internet**.
- In other words, the browser is a **program that runs on your device**, with its purpose being **to fetch information** in different formats from the internet and show it on the device.
- It also does the reverse, receiving your input (say, a click), translating it to code, and transmitting it to some other machine across the internet.

Tata Power EV, IOCL to jointly set up over 500 charging points

Context

- **Tata Power EV Charging Solutions Ltd.** and **Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL)** have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU)
- It is **to roll out fast and ultrafast electric vehicle (EV) charging points** across the country.

Key points

- Tata Power would **install more than 500 EV charging points** across multiple IOCL retail outlets to help alleviate range anxiety for EV owners travelling between cities.
- This will **contribute to accessibility and inclusivity** for a sustainable electric mobility future

Loss of green cover in Cauvery basin

Context

- A paper published by scientists and researchers at the **Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru** highlighted that natural vegetation on nearly **12,850 sq. km of land in the Cauvery basin** was lost in the 50 years from 1965 to 2016.

Key points

- **Karnataka** has lost much more than any other State in the basin.
- It accounts for **three fourths of the lost cover**, while **Tamil Nadu's share is around one fifth**.
- The natural vegetation **cover went down by around 46%**
- The quantum of reduction of dense vegetation was 35% and that of degraded vegetation, 63%
- Areas that suffered adverse changes in the extent of forest cover



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include the **Brahmagiri Wildlife Sanctuary**, **Bandipur National Park**, **Nagarhole National Park** and the **Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary**.

New Chhattisgarh CM



Context

- **Vishnu Deo Sai** has been chosen as new Chhattisgarh CM
- He will be the **first tribal leader** to hold the post.
- He is also the **first to hail from a region beyond the Other Backward Class** dominated central plains in Chhattisgarh's 23year old history.

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