



IAS PARLIAMENT

Information is Empowering
A Shankar IAS Academy Initiative

Prelim Bits 07-11-2017

Nelapattu bird sanctuary

\n\n

\n

- Nelapattu Bird Sanctuary is a bird sanctuary in Nellore district, Andhra Pradesh,

\n

- It is an important breeding site for spot-billed pelicans.

\n

- Spot-billed pelicans are a bird of large inland and coastal waters, especially large lakes.

\n

- It breeds only in peninsular India, Sri Lanka and in Cambodia.

\n

- They are not migratory but are known to make local movements.

\n

- They are colonial breeder, often breeding in the company of other waterbirds.

\n

- It is categorized as “Near Threatened” in IUCN red list.

\n

- Copious rain from the south west and north east monsoon led to the return of pelicans in Nelapattu sanctuary.

\n

\n\n

Gender Vulnerability Index

\n\n

\n

- The first ever Gender Vulnerability Index is computed by Plan India, a non-governmental organisation.

\n

- It provides state-wise ranking by analyzing four parameters, namely health,

education, poverty and protection/safety from violence.

\n

- The index is topped by Goa followed by Kerala and Mizoram.
- Bihar ranked the lowest in the index particularly women safety and security.
- The composite index has been developed within research for the NGO's "Plan for Every Child campaign".
- It is aimed at comprehensively understanding the dimensions of various problems affecting children, particularly girls, in difficult circumstances.

\n

\n\n

ChintanShivir

\n\n

\n

- It is a two day national workshop organized by Ministry of Human Resource Development.
- The main objective of the workshop is to provide holistic education relevant for 21st century India,
- It aims to bring together key stakeholders from various NGOs, private sector and individuals to deliberate on key themes in the education sector.

\n

\n\n

ShaalaSarathi

\n\n

\n

- It is a portal launched by the Ministry of Human Resource Development.
- It is a State-NGO-CSR Portal to aid the collaboration among the stakeholders in sharing innovative practices in various schools.
- **Shaala Siddhi** - A comprehensive **school evaluation system** focused on well-defined quality based parameters.
- It facilitates Schools to make professional judgments for improvement.

\n

\n\n

Proxima Centauri

\n\n

\n

- Proxima Centauri is the closest star to Sun.
- It is a faint red dwarf lying four light years away in the southern constellation of Centaurus.
- It is orbited by the Earth-sized Proxima b which is the closest exoplanet to the solar system.
- Scientists have recently detected dust belts around Proxima Centauri, by the Atacama Large Millimeter Array (ALMA) Observatory in Chile.
- The presence of dust belts indicates the presence of an elaborate planetary system hosted by it.

\n

\n\n

eBird India Portal

\n\n

\n

- It is an e-platform designed for birders to record their sightings through bird 'record'.
- Bird 'record' is the observation of a particular species at a particular date, time and place.
- Tamil Nadu State's bird 'record' has recently reached one million counts.
- TN has become the third state to achieve this distinction after Kerala and Karnataka.
- House Crow comes first in the list of 25 birds record followed by Common Myna, Large-billed crow and others.

\n

\n\n

Best Urban Transport Practices Award

\n\n

\n

- The award is announced by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
\n
- “Best City Bus Services” award is given to Surat for attracting 87% of private vehicles and auto rickshaw users.
\n
- Mysuru’s Public Bicycle Sharing has won the ‘Best Non-Motorised Transport’ Award.
\n
- Kochi Kerala has been chosen for the ‘Best Urban Transport Initiative’ Award for completing its Metro Rail Project in a quick time and integrating it with other modes of transport.
\n

\n\n

\n\n

Source: The Hindu, PIB

\n



IAS PARLIAMENT
Information is Empowering
A Shankar IAS Academy Initiative