

# Prelim Bits 09-03-2018

### **CoMaD at Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute**

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 Marine Biological Association of India (MBAI) is to organize a national conference to draw an action plan to control marine debris (CoMaD – Conference on Marine Debris) at the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute.

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- There are 5.25 trillion pieces of plastic debris in the ocean, of which 269,000 tones float on the surface.  $\n$
- Further, four billion plastic microfibers per sq km litter the deep sea.  $\slash n$
- In India, micro and macro plastics have been observed at all tropic levels from sardines to tunas and sea birds.
- The Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute was established by Government of India on 1947 under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

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- Later it joined the ICAR family in 1967.  $\slash n$
- Kochi is the head quarter of the Institute.  $\slash n$



### Chindu Bhagavatham

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- Chindu Bhagavatham is an art form dating back to second century BC.  $\slashn$
- It is popular in the Nizamabad district,Telegana.  $\space{\space{1.5}\spac$
- Chindu is derived from the artistes' caste Chindu Madiga a sub-caste of Madiga among the Scheduled Caste community. \n
- The Chindu Bhagavatam is also called Chindu Yakshaganam, as it is similar to Yakshaganam of Karnataka.  $\n$



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- The Chindu artistes lead a nomadic life.
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- They camp in a particular place for about eight months where they stage plays and during rainy days they work as agriculture laborers.  $\n$

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### e- Jagrata

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- e-jagrata is a novel initiative to ensure safe, secured and effective Internet usage by schoolchildren.
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- It was launched by the district administration of Ernakulum.

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- The project is being implemented with the support of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) and State Bank of India (SBI).  $\n$
- Students of standards eight and nine from government schools and  $% \alpha = 0$  aided schools will be trained under the program. If  $\alpha = 0$
- The current training phase will cover cloud computing, android development, ethical hacking, robotics, and Internet payment among other topics.  $\n$
- The previous phases focused on basic IT and safe and responsible usage of Internet.

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## **Ranganthittu Bird Sanctuary**

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- The Forest Department and Mysore Bird Watchers' group will soon conduct the first bird census at Ranganathittu Bird sanctuary.  $\nline{100}$
- Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary is situated in Srirangapatna of Mandya district, Karnataka.
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- Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary located on the islands of river Cauvery.  $\slash n$
- It is an example of riverine ecosystem.  $\slash n$

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- The flying fox, bonnet macaque, common otter, common mongoose, palm civet, marsh crocodile are found here.
- $\bullet$  Rich avifauna includes the large cormorand, darter, spoonbill, open-billed stork, painted stork, egret, heron, and the lesser whistling teal.  $\n$
- It is an Important Bird Area (IBA) that is identified by Birdlife International and Bombay Natural History Society.

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### **SUVIDHA**

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- Government is set to launch 'SUVIDHA', under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP).
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- SUVIDHA is a 100% Oxo-biodegradable Sanitary Napkin at a cost of Rs.2.50.  $\ensuremath{\sc n}$
- Oxo-biodegradable product is made by blending a pro-degrading  $\;$  additive into it that causes breakdown by oxidation when exposed to heat or sunlight.  $\n$
- The material will eventually be in a state where it can be digested by microorganisms.

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- A similar special additive is added in the Suvidha napkin, which makes it biodegradable when it reacts with oxygen after it is used and discarded.  $\n$
- It will be available at the Janaushadhi Kendaras.  $\slashn$
- It would ensure 'Swachhta, Swasthya and Suvidha' for the underprivileged women of India.
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- This affordable sanitary pad will promote hygiene, ease of disposal as well as keep the environment clean.  $\n$
- According to the National Family Health Survey 2015-16, about 58% of women aged between 15 to 24 years use locally prepared napkins, sanitary napkins and tampons.
- Click <u>here</u> to know about PMBJP

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### **IIDEM**

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• The India International Institute for Democracy and Election Management (IIIDEM) is conducting a training program on 'Capacity Development for Election Management'.

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- It is conducted under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) program of the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).  $\n$
- IIDEM is an advanced resource centre of learning, research, training and extension for participatory democracy and election management.

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• The Institute is being developed in collaboration with the Government of India, United Nations, the Commonwealth and inter-governmental organizations like International Institute of Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA).

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• IIDEM has four components which are  $\n$ 

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1. Training and Capacity Development,

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- 2. Voter Education and Civic Participation, n
- 3. Research, Innovation and Documentation
- 4. International Projects and Technical Collaboration  $\nphi^n$

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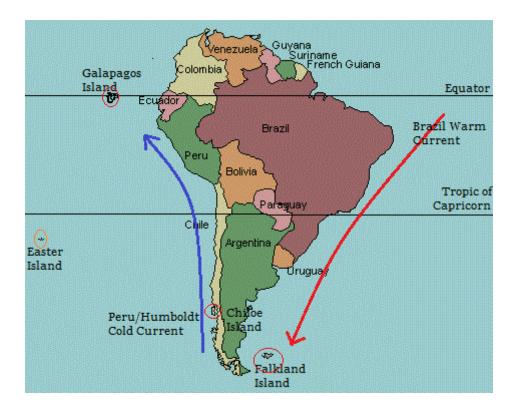
- IIDEM will work for promoting democratic values and practices, enhancing voter education and awareness and developing efficient human resources.  $\n$ 

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## Map of the Day

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South America



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- Bolivia and Paraguay are the only landlocked countries.  $\slash n$
- Galapagos is a part of Ecuador and is an archipelago of volcanic islands distributed on either side of the Equator.  $\n$
- Chiloe Island is a part of Chile is a southern extension of the Chilean coastal mountain range.

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- Easter Island is also a Chilean island and is of volcanic origin.  $\slash n$
- Falkland Island is a part of a British overseas territory and lies on the on the Patagonian Shelf (continental shelf).  $\n$

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#### Source: PIB, The Hindu, Businessline

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A Shankar IAS Academy Initiative