

## CURRENT AFFAIRS

13<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2022

### ODISHA CM NAVEEN PATNAIK LAUNCHES 'FOOTBALL FOR ALL'

Odisha Chief Minister **Naveen Patnaik** has launched '**Football for All**' in the state to take the culture of football to the grassroots. The Programme has been initiated by FIFA in Odisha in partnership with the **Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT)** & **Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS)**.

#### Under the initiative

- Over 43,000 footballs will be distributed to children in about 2000 schools. This is the first such programme of FIFA in India that aims at promoting football among school children.
- Joining the programme on a virtual platform, Patnaik said that football is the most popular game and brings together people across the globe.
- FIFA for choosing Odisha for this programme and appreciated the role of Achyuta Samanta, founder of KIIT-KISS, in bringing this programme to Odisha.
- Patnaik looked forward to future partnerships with FIFA for the development of football in Odisha. Director of 'Football for Schools', FIFA, Fatimata Sow Sidibe, joining the virtual platform, appreciated the role of the Chief Minister and Odisha government for the promotion of sports in Odisha.
- On this occasion, the Sports Minister presented footballs to students of Unit-9 Girls' High School and Capital High School, Bhubaneswar.



### PADMA SHRI DR TEMSULA AO PASSES AWAY

Former chairperson of Nagaland State Commission for Women, academician, renowned writer and Padma Shri **Dr Temsula Ao** passed away at a private hospital in Dimapur. She was 80. Dr Temsula Ao, who was known as a leading literary voice in the northeast, was awarded **Padma Shri in 2007**. She was a recipient of the Nagaland Governor's Award for Distinction in Literature, the Meghalaya governor's Gold Medal and the Sahitya Akademi Award, among other recognitions.

**Dr Temsula Ao** spent almost half of her life teaching at the North Eastern Hill University (NEHU). She retired from there in 2010 as a professor of English and dean of the School of Humanities and Education NEHU. Her literary works are reported to have been translated into German and French as well as Hindi, Assamese and Bengali.



## KADAVUR SLENDER LORIS SANCTUARY

### Key facts

- Tamil Nadu is set to host India's first ever Slender Loris Sanctuary.
- Named Kadavur Slender Loris Sanctuary, it will span across 11,806 hectares in Karur and Dindigul districts, covering areas of Kadavur taluk in Karur and, Dindigul East, Vedasandur and Natham taluks in Dindigul.
- The government notified the establishment of the new sanctuary under Section 26 A(1)(b) of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- This is part of the Tamil Nadu government's on-going efforts towards conservation of endangered and vulnerable species in the state.
- Over the past 15 months, it had notified India's first Dugong Conservation Reserve in Palk Bay, Nanjarayan Tank birds sanctuary in Tiruppur and Kazhuveli bird sanctuary in Villupuram as well as the fifth elephant reserve of the state in elephant reserve at Agasthyamalai in Tirunelveli.



### About Slender Loris

The slender lorise, belonging to genus *Loris*, are native to Sri Lanka and southern India. These species spend majority of their life in trees, travelling the atop the branches with slow and precise movements. These nocturnal animals are found in scrub forests, semi-deciduous forests, swamps and tropical rain forests. Though insectivorous, these animals also consume plants. They play a critical role in the terrestrial ecosystem. They are also crucial in agriculture since they consume pests that are harmful to crops. They are categorized as endangered animal by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List. These endangered primates are listed under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act of India, 1972. The species is currently among the least studied of all primates in India. They are poached because of the erroneous belief that they have magical powers. Poaching and the habitat loss are the main threats faced by them. The loss of acacia tree, habitat fragmentation, hunting for pet trade and meat are among the reasons for the dwindling population of this species.

## WHAT IS PM-DEVINE?

The Union Cabinet has recently approved a new scheme called Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North East Region (PM-DevINE).

### Key facts

- PM-DevINE scheme was announced by the Central Government during Union Budget 2022-23 to remove the developmental gaps in the North Eastern Region (NER).
- The recently launched scheme will be implemented for the remaining four years of the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission from 2022-23 to 2025-26.
- It was announced to address the shortfalls in Basic Minimum Services (BMS) in the North Eastern Region.
- It will be fully funded by the central government and implemented by the Union Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER).
- The government has allocated Rs.6,600 crore for the implementation of this scheme.



- The scheme provides funding for infrastructure projects and social development projects that will help remove developmental gaps in various sectors in Northeastern region.
- The ultimate aim of this initiative is to boost livelihood opportunities in Northeastern region, especially for women and youth.
- To minimise the risk of delays and cash crunch, the projects under this scheme will be implemented on engineering-procurement-construction (EPC) basis as much as possible.
- The PM-DevINE scheme will not be a substitute to the existing central and state schemes.
- The new scheme is unique from the other existing MDoNER schemes that are implemented for the development of North Eastern Region.
- The average size of projects under other schemes is about Rs.12 crore. The PM-DevINE scheme aids infrastructure and social development projects that are larger in size. It will also provide end-to-end development solutions rather than focusing on just isolated projects.
- For 2022-23, the scheme will cover all projects that were introduced during recent Union Budget.
- In the future, it will focus on projects that promises to create substantial socio-economic impact or sustainable job opportunities for the general public. These may include basic infrastructure in all Primary Healthcare Centres, comprehensive facilities in government schools etc.

## **KUAFU-1: CHINA'S FIRST SPACE-BASED SOLAR TELESCOPE**

The Advanced Space-based Solar Observatory (ASO-S) – China's first space-based solar telescope – was launched recently.

### **Key facts**

- The Advanced Space-based Solar Observatory (ASO-S) was launched aboard the Long March-2D carrier rocket from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwestern part of China.
- It is nicknamed Kuafu-1, after a mythical giant that sought to capture and tame the sun.
- The solar mission, which is expected to last for 4 years, will enable scientists to capture and study the previously unprecedented images of the Sun during the “solar maximum” (when sun has the highest number of sun spots). The solar maximum is expected to occur around the year 2025.
- The ASO-S is China's first full-scale satellite dedicated to researching the Sun. It is the world's first solar telescope capable of simultaneously monitoring both solar flares and coronal mass ejections.
- It will study the Sun from an orbit 720 km above the surface of the Earth.
- The mission is capable of simultaneous observation of the entire Sun's vector magnetic field, imaging spectroscopy at high energies of solar flares, and studying the formation and evolution of solar flares and coronal mass ejections on the disk and in the inner corona.
- This will improve the understanding of the physics of solar eruptions and further the forecasting capability of solar weather.
- The solar satellite will send 500 GB data concerning the Sun's magnetic field, solar flares and coronal mass ejections each day to ground stations in Sanya, Kashgar and Beijing.
- During the solar eruptions, the satellite can send pictures to ground stations every second.



- From the ground stations, the data is transferred in packages to a 2,048-core computer in Purple Mountain Observatory.
- This mission is similar to NASA's Parker Solar Probe and ESA's Solar Orbiter.
- India is planning to launch a similar solar mission in 2023 called Aditya-L1 to research the solar atmosphere.

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