



DAILY PT POINTERS

2nd December, 2023



HEADLINES OF THE DAY

AIR: Culture

Nagaland: Hornbill Festival begins at Naga Heritage Village 'Kisama'.

The 24th Edition of the Hornbill Festival officially kicked off at the Naga Heritage Village 'Kisama' on Friday (1st December 2023) evening. United States of America, Germany and Columbia are the Country Partners and Assam as Partner state for this year's edition. Ambassador of USA to India Eric Garcetti, Ambassador to British High Commissioner to India Alex Ellis, Ambassador of Colombia to India Dr. Victor Echeverri Jaramillo and German Consul General Kolkata Barbara Voss graced the inaugural function as Honoured Guests. The 10-day festival will witness a dash of colourful culture, traditional and contemporaries of all the tribes of Nagaland in one platform, celebrating the spirit of unity in diversity.



The festival of Festivals- the Hornbill Festival 2023 officially declared open with the sounding of Traditional Gong by Governor of Nagaland and Chief Host La Ganesan and Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio, who is the also the Host of the Festival. Welcoming the visitors and tourist from across the Nation, Governor La Ganesan said the festival is one where tradition embraces modernity

News

- The 24th Edition of the Hornbill Festival begins at the Naga Heritage Village 'Kisama' .

Hornbill Festival

- It is also known as the “**festival of all festivals**”.
- **Aim of the festival:** To revive and protect the rich culture of Nagaland and display its extravaganza and traditions.
- **Many tribes** like Angami, Chang, Garo, Konyak, Kuki, Lotha, Phom, Pochury, Rengma, Sangtam, and Zeliang take part in the festival.

Great Hornbill

- It is found in the **Indian subcontinent and Southeast Asia**.
- **IUCN status:** Vulnerable
- It is the state bird of the Indian states of **Kerala and Arunachal Pradesh**.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB: Science and Technology / Health

New highly fluorescent material brings non-enzymatic approach for detection of anticancer drug Methotrexate known for toxicity at high dosage

Posted On: 01 DEC 2023 5:08PM by PIB Delhi

A new highly fluorescent material with exceptional optical properties has been developed using phosphorene, cystine, and gold (Ph-Cys-Au) which can be used as a visual sensing platform for detecting anti-cancer drug MTX overdose of which has toxic effect on lungs, stomach, and heart.

Monitoring therapeutic drugs and their elimination is crucial because they may cause severe side effects on the human body. Methotrexate (MTX) is a widely used anti-cancer drug. The MTX value of more than 10 μM in blood plasma is hazardous if it remains in the system for more than 10 hours, resulting in poisoning effects on the lungs, ulcers of the stomach, and heart stroke. MTX is highly expensive, and the detection of unwanted overdoses using traditional procedures is time-consuming and involves complex instrumentation. Considering all these issues, the development of fast and sensitive detection using simple methodologies is required.

To address this issue, scientists of Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology (IASST), an autonomous institute of Department of Science and Technology (DST) have developed a highly fluorescent material using phosphorene, cystine, and gold (Ph-Cys-Au). The material by the the team consisting of Professor Neelopal Sen Sarma, Dr. Mojibur R Khan, and research scholars Nasrin Sultana and Chingtham Thanil Singh, has exceptional optical properties and thus can be used as a visual sensing platform for detecting the anti-cancer drug MTX. This non-enzymatic approach for the detection of anticancer drug Methotrexate can help cytotoxicity screening for



News

- A new highly fluorescent material with exceptional optical properties has been developed using **phosphorene, cystine, and gold (Ph-Cys-Au)** which can be used as a visual sensing platform for detecting anti-cancer drug MTX overdose which has a toxic effect on lungs, stomach, and heart.

Methotrexate (MTX)

- Methotrexate (MTX) is a widely used **anti-cancer drug**.
- The MTX value of more than **10 μM** in blood plasma is hazardous if it remains in the system for more than 10 hours.
- MTX is highly expensive, and the detection of unwanted overdoses using traditional procedures is time-consuming and involves complex instrumentation.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



PIB: International Organisations

Codex Alimentarius Commission Praises India's Standards on Millets

India has played a pivotal role in making the millet choice of the common man. India's proposal will set the benchmark in highlighting millet and its benefits worldwide: Dr Mansukh Mandaviya

India shows the way forward for global standards for these nutri-cereals

Posted On: 01 DEC 2023 2:53PM by PIB Delhi

The Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC), an international food safety and quality standard-setting body created by WHO and FAO of the United Nations with 188 member countries, has praised India's Standards on Millets and accepted its proposal for the development of global standards for millets during its 46th session held in Rome, Italy.

India has framed a comprehensive group standard for 15 types of millets specifying 8 quality parameters, which received resounding applause at the international meet. Codex currently has standards for Sorghum and Pearl Millet.

News

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Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC)

- It is an **intergovernmental food standards** body, set up in **1963**.
- It was established jointly by the UN's **Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)** and the **World Health Organisation (WHO)**, within the framework of the **Joint Food Standards Programme**.
- **Objective:** To protect consumer's health and ensure fair practices in the food trade.
- **Members:** Currently, **189 members** (188 member countries and the European Union).
- **India** became a member in **1964**.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB: Polity and Governance / Geography

PM greets on Nagaland Statehood Day

Posted On: 01 DEC 2023 10:15AM by PIB Delhi

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has greeted people of Nagaland on their Statehood Day.

In a post on X, the Prime Minister said :

"Happy Statehood Day to the people of Nagaland. The state's fascinating history, colorful festivals and warm-hearted people are greatly admired. May this day reinforce Nagaland's journey towards growth and success."



News

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Nagaland

- **Nagaland became the 16th state of the country on December 1, 1963.**
- Nagaland is a mountainous state in northeast India.
- It is bounded by **Assam in the West, Myanmar (Burma) in the East, Arunachal Pradesh** and part of **Assam** in the North, and **Manipur** in the South.

The Hindu: International Organisations

HOME / NEWS / INDIA

India urges Interpol members to deny safe havens to crime, criminals, and proceeds of crime

So far this year, 24 criminals and fugitives wanted by Indian agencies have been deported or extradited back to India via Interpol channels; 184 criminals geo-located in various countries

December 01, 2023 07:14 pm | Updated 07:38 pm IST - NEW DELHI

News

- India has urged Interpol members to deny safe havens to crime, criminals, and proceeds of crime.

Interpol

- Interpol is an inter-governmental organisation with 196 member countries, and it helps police in all of them "to work together to make the world a safer place."
- It is headquartered in **Lyon, France.**
- India has joined Interpol in 1949.

Indian Express: Polity and Governance / Cyber Security

Center notifies guidelines against 'dark patterns' that mislead buyers

The guidelines that have now come into force will apply to all platforms systematically offering goods or services in India, advertisers and sellers.

News

- The Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA), has notified guidelines for the “prevention and regulation” of dark patterns.

About

- The Guidelines for Prevention and Regulation of Dark Patterns, 2023, issued under section 18 of the Consumer Protection Act, 2019.
- The guidelines define dark patterns as “any practices or deceptive design pattern using user interface or user experience interactions on any platform that is designed to mislead or trick users to do something they originally did not intend or want to do, by subverting or impairing the consumer autonomy, decision making or choice, amounting to misleading advertisement or unfair trade practice or violation of consumer rights.”
- In short, Dark patterns are tactics used by online platforms to mislead customers and prevent them from making right choices.
- **Specified Dark Patterns:** False Urgency, Basket sneaking, Confirm shaming, Subscription trap etc.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

Indian Express: Geography

IMD FORECAST AMID ONE OF THE HOTTEST YEARS ON RECORD

El Nino, other factors to cause warm winter

ANJALI MARAR
PUNE, DECEMBER 1

THE INDIA Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast a warm winter season across the country, saying minimum temperature could remain higher than normal. This follows an overall warming trend experienced globally, including India, which witnessed the third warmest November since 1901.

With February, August and November being the warmest months since 1901 in India, 2023 is on its way to becoming the warmest year ever recorded on Earth. "Due to large-scale features like the El Nino, in addition to the regional factors like western disturbances and the upcoming cyclone developing in the Bay



Asmoggy Friday morning at Kartavya Path in New Delhi. PTI

of Bengal, there are chances of higher-than-normal minimum temperatures, making it a warm winter season in the country,"

said Mrutyunjay Mohapatra, Director General, IMD.

Fewer and less intense cold waves could further keep the

December to February period warm, he said.

At present, the El Nino condition — the warmer than usual sea surface temperatures recorded over the equatorial Pacific Ocean — is inching to its peak. As per the recent observations, the Nino 3.4 region remained 2.4 degrees Celsius above the threshold, he said.

Among other reasons likely to contribute to warm winter are the cloudy conditions caused by the western disturbances, pushing up the minimum temperature, he said.

"Further, the soon-to-develop cyclone will also cause cloudiness and the minimum temperature over the south peninsular India and eastern coastal India will remain above normal during the upcoming

days," the IMD chief said.

During December, too, no significant drop in the mercury is expected and the minimum temperature over most parts of the country, except east and north-east India, is expected to remain above normal, Mohapatra said.

Meanwhile, the impending cyclone "Michaung" in the south-west Bay of Bengal moved towards southern coastal Andhra Pradesh and northern Tamil Nadu.

The IMD has issued a "red" alert and warned of extremely heavy rainfall (over 200 mm) on December 3 and 4 over coastal Andhra Pradesh. Along with coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh and north Tamil Nadu, including Chennai, the cyclone shall affect Telangana and southern Odisha in the coming days, the IMD has warned.

News

- The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast a warm winter season across the country, saying minimum temperature could remain higher than normal due to **El Niño and other factors**.
- This follows an overall warming trend experienced globally, including India, which witnessed the third warmest November since 1901.

El Niño

- It is the warmer than usual sea surface temperatures recorded over the equatorial Pacific Ocean.
- It can also cause **changes in temperature, precipitation, and storm patterns** in India.