

**10 September 2018**

**Daily News Pedia**

**Endangered Pondicherry shark**



An endangered Pondicherry shark has been spotted near Kakinada, East Godavari River Estuarine Ecosystem region.

Pondicherry shark is an endangered species protected under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act.

It is locally known as Pala Sora.

Conservations outreach: Department of forest is working in association with the EGREE foundation and the fishing communities in bringing down the trade in such species.

*Note:* Need of the various departments to work in tandem with local community by responsible planning and management. The local fisherman should be made aware about its conservation status. The trade in such species should be regulated strictly.

Source: The Hindu, Google.

**2 irrigation facilities in Telangana get heritage tag**

For the first time in India, an irrigation project has been recognized as heritage structure by the international agencies.

Sadarmatt anicut, located at Medampally in Nirmal district of Telangana has been selected as a heritage structure at the 69th International Executive Council meeting of International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID 2018), held in Saskatoon, Canada.

## The World Heritage Irrigation Structures

Designed to recognize historical irrigation structures, was initiated in 2012, including both old operational structures as well as those of an archival value.

### **Sadarmatt anicut** (a rainfall bund)

It is located across the Godavari River in Nirmal district. It provides water for paddy crops and served as a picnic spot.

**The Pedda Cheruvu** (big tank): It is a large manmade lake known also as Ramanthapur Lake, located near Hyderabad in Telangana; it provides water for irrigation and drinking purpose.

Source: The Hindu

### **4<sup>th</sup> World Summit on Accreditation (WOSA-2018)**

Union Minister for HRD Shri Prakash Javadekar Inaugurates 4th World Summit on Accreditation (WOSA-2018) at New Delhi today.

NBA is organising WOSA 2018 from 07<sup>th</sup> to 09<sup>th</sup> September, 2018

The focus of WOSA 2018 is on **“CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN OUTCOME BASED ACCREDITATION”**.

The Summit facilitated exchange of information on various challenges being faced during transition between input-output based accreditation to outcome based accreditation. It saw participation of accreditation agencies from across world on common platform to share best practices.

WOSA 2018 also provided opportunity for academia and industry to explore avenues for future partnerships and to create an environment for open dialogue to facilitate mobility of students and professionals world-wide to gain international experience.

**Sub-themes of WOSA 2018:** Achieving excellence through learning outcomes, role of industry in technical education, ranking and rating of higher education institutions – Do they have Role in Quality Improvement, linking government funding with quality and use of ICT in accreditation in large jurisdictions.

### *4 World Hindu Congress (WHC-2018)*

The World Hindu Congress (WHC-2018) was held Chicago, United States. It was organized to commemorate 125 years of Swami Vivekananda historic Chicago address on September 11, 1893.

The theme of WHC-2018 was *“Sumantrite Suvikrante” — thinks collectively, achieve valiantly*. It was second edition of World Hindu Congress and was attended by Vice President Venkaiah Naidu.

### *World Hindu Congress (WHC)*

It is global platform for Hindus to connect, share ideas, inspire one another, and impact the common good. It offers Hindus opportunity to introspect towards improvement and tap into collective resources to seek tangible solutions to most pressing issues of our age. The inaugural WHC was held in November 2014 in New Delhi with theme *‘Sangachchhadhwam Samvadadhvam’* which means *‘Step together, express together’*. Since then, it is held once every four years.

Source: PIB

## *T.N. recommends release of all seven Rajiv case convicts*

Tamil Nadu cabinet recommended the governor that all seven life convicts in the former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi assassination case be released under Article 161 of the Constitution.

Background:

1999: In Rajiv Gandhi assassination case, SC had upheld death sentence to 4, and life imprisonment to other 3.

- 2014: SC commuted death sentence of 3 to life imprisonment citing “inordinate & inexplicable delay” in deciding mercy petition
- April 2018: President turned down remission request by state govt.
- September 2018: state government has recommended governor to use art.161 to grant remission, as SC observed last week as “governor is at liberty to decide on release”
- **Article 72** deals with **power of president** to grant pardons, etc., and to suspend, remit or commute sentences in certain cases.
- **Article 161** deals with **power of governor** to grant pardons, etc., and to suspend, remit or commute sentences in certain cases.

*Note:* Governor can only pardon in the cases which are related to state’s law not the central law. Governor can reduce the sentence or can completely pardon it. It is up to him but remember case must be within that state’s law. He doesn’t have any power if the offender has been awarded with the death sentence, whether by the state’s law or central law. If the capital punishment has been given then only president of India can pardon it however governor can delay it. Governor doesn’t have any power on the matters related to military rules like court-martial however president can pardon or alter them too.

Source: The Hindu.

## *Uniform Civil Code*

Law commission in its 21<sup>st</sup> report says uniform civil code is “neither necessary nor desirable” at this stage.

Article 44 of Indian constitution: The state shall endeavor to secure for all the citizens a uniform civil code throughout the territory of India.

Objective of article 44: The objective is to address the discrimination against vulnerable groups and harmonize diverse cultural practices.

**Note:**

**What universal civil code mean:** It will make common law for property, marriage, divorce, inheritance and succession for all religion

### *Recommendation of the commission*

- Uniform age of marriage for both boys and girls
- Making adultery ground for divorce in Muslim law
- Need for stricter ban on child marriage
- Striking a fine balance on freedom of religion and right to equality
- Adults of either gender should be allowed to adopt children
- Rationalizing the personal laws within communities rather than between communities

Source: The Hindu.

## **EDITORIAL**

To Read

### **Cloudy forecast: on climate change**

#### **Developed countries, especially the U.S., need to commit funds to limit climate change**

The conference of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in Bangkok last week, that was to draft a rulebook for the Paris Agreement ahead of a crucial international conference in Poland in December, ran into predictable difficulties over the issue of raising funds to help poorer nations. Some developed countries led by the U.S. — which, under the Trump administration, has rejected the agreement — are unwilling to commit to sound rules on raising climate finance. Under the pact concluded in Paris, rich countries pledged to raise \$100 billion a year by 2020 to help developing countries reduce their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and aid populations to cope with extreme events such as floods, droughts and storms. Obstructing the transition to a carbon-neutral pathway and preserving the status quo is short-sighted, simply because the losses caused by weather events are proving severely detrimental to all economies. By trying to stall climate justice to millions of poor people in vulnerable countries, the developed nations are refusing to accept their responsibility for historical emissions of GHGs. Those emissions raised living standards for their citizens but contributed heavily to the accumulated carbon dioxide burden, now measured at about 410 parts per million of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere, up from 280 ppm before the industrial revolution.

There is international pressure on China and India to cut GHG emissions. Both countries have committed themselves to a cleaner growth path. India, which reported annual CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent emissions of 2.136 billion tones in 2010 to the UNFCCC two years ago, estimates that the GHG emissions intensity of its GDP has declined by 12% for the 2005-2010 periods. As members committed to the Paris Agreement, China and India have the responsibility of climate leadership in the developing world, and have to green their growth. What developing countries need is a supportive framework in the form of a rulebook that binds the developed countries to their funding pledges, provides support for capacity building and transfer of green technologies on liberal terms. If scientific estimates are correct, the damage already done to the West Antarctic Ice Sheet is set to raise sea levels; a 2° Celsius rise will also destabilize the Greenland Ice Sheet. Failed agriculture in populous countries will drive more mass migrations of people, creating conflict. A deeper insight on all this will be available in October when the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change releases its scientific report on the impact of a 1.5° C rise in global average temperature. This is the time for the world's leaders to demonstrate that they are ready to go beyond expediency and take the actions needed to avert long-term catastrophe.

## **MAINS QUESTION**

**Q: National Agri-Market is slowly transforming the way India trades in Agri-Products. Explain.**

## **PRELIMS QUESTIONS**

- 1. With reference to the World Summit on Accreditation (WOSA) 2018, which of the following statements is/are correct?**
- a. It is organised by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC).
  - b. It is held annually to provide platform to stakeholders to share their knowledge and information on accreditation.

Select the correct codes from the following options:

- a. Both 1 and 2
- b. Only 1
- c. Only 2
- d. None of the above

**Answer: C**

Explanation: NBA is organising WOSA. The Summit facilitated exchange of information on various challenges being faced during transition between input-output based accreditation to outcome based accreditation. It saw participation of accreditation agencies from across world on common platform to share best practices.

- 2. With reference to Pondicherry shark which of the following is/are not correct.**
- a. It has been spotted near Kakinada, East Godavari River Estuarine Ecosystem region.
  - b. It is locally known as Pala Sora.
  - c. Both.
  - d. None.

**Answer: D**

Explanation: An endangered Pondicherry shark has been spotted near Kakinada, East Godavari River Estuarine Ecosystem region. Pondicherry shark is an endangered species protected under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act. It is locally known as Pala Sora.

- 3. Choose the right statement related to Sadarmatt anicut**
- a. It is located across the Godavari River in Nirmal district.
  - b. It provides water for paddy crops and served as a picnic spot.
  - c. It is located at Medampally in Nirmal district of Telangana has been selected as a heritage structure at the 69th International Executive Council meeting of International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage.
  - d. All the above.

**Answer: D**