

# JULY 15th

### INTERNATIONAL

#### 1) Report on Child Trafficking

- A new report by International Organization for Migration and Harvard University reveals that over half of child trafficking victims worldwide are trafficked within their own country.
- Child trafficking refers to the illegal recruitment, transportation, and exploitation of children.
- Article 23 prohibits trafficking in human beings and forced labour.

#### 2) Chavin de Huantar

- At the Chavin de Huantar archaeological site in Peru, archaeologists have made a captivating finding.
- Chavin de Huantar, situated approximately 190 miles (306 km) northeast of Lima. Recognizing its cultural significance, Chavin de Huantar was designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1985, serving as a central location for social, political, and religious activities in the Andean Highlands.

### NATIONAL

### 1) Namda Art of Kashmir

- The Namda Art of Kashmir, a dying craft, has been successfully revived through the Skill India project under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana.
- It is a traditional Kashmiri craft that involves creating felted carpets using sheep wool and hand embroidery.
- It was introduced by a Sufi saint named Shah-e-Hamdan.



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### 2) Export Preparedness Index 2022

- Recently, the 3rd edition of Export Preparedness Index is going to release by NITI Aayog.
- It assesses the export performance of Indian states and UTs, considering the global trade context in FY22.
- The report emphasizes the importance of developing districts as export hubs and conducts a district-level analysis of merchandise exports in the country.

#### 3) Authoor betel leaves

- The Authoor betel leaves of Tamil Nadu, received Geographical Indication (GI) certificate. The certificate is granted in the name of Authoor Vattara Vetrilai Vivasayigal Sangam.
- The Authoor betel leaf, predominantly utilized during special occasions such as temple festivals, housewarmings, and weddings, possesses a distinctively spicy and pungent flavor.

#### **STATE NEWS**

#### 1) "Gajah Kotha" campaign

• The Assam has launched the "Gajah Kotha" campaign. It focuses on HEC-affected villages in eastern Assam, where it aims to educate residents about the behavior, ecology, and cultural significance of elephants in the region, emphasizing the importance of conservation.



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### ENVIRONMENT

#### 1) Sand and dust storms

- According to the UN, sand and dust storms have increased dramatically in frequency and severity in recent years.
- Sand and dust storms are common meteorological hazards in arid and semi-arid regions.
- Sand and dust storms strong winds lift large amounts of sand and dust from bare, dry soils into the atmosphere, transporting them hundreds to thousands of km away.

#### 2) Forest loss in western Ghats

- Western Ghats has experienced a 5% loss in evergreen forest cover, with an increase in built-up and agriculture areas, according to a spatiotemporal (belonging to both space and time or to space-time) analysis of land use.
- Only 25% of the forest landmass consists of interior forests, indicating fragmentation pressure and its impact on local ecology.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

#### 1) Bedaquiline

- The nonprofit Global Drug Facility has reached an agreement with Johnson & Johnson to distribute generic versions of the anti-tuberculosis drug bedaquiline in most low and middle-income countries.
- Tuberculosis is caused by bacteria and primarily affects the lungs. It is a treatable but deadly infectious disease causing 1.5 million deaths annually.



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