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## NATIONAL

### 1) 'Narasinghapettai nagaswaram'

'Narasinghapettai nagaswaram', an ancient musical instrument from Narasinghapettai, a village in Thanjavur, has been granted Geographical Indication (GI) tag. It is highly complex musical instrument, dating back to the 13th century. 'Aacha' wood, which is naturally water-resistant, is procured specifically from the Cauvery River basin for making the instrument.

### 2) Indian Coast Guard Ship Saksham

Dr Ajay Kumar, Defence Secretary of India, has commissioned the Indian Coast Guard Ship Saksham. The fifth in the series of 105-metre Offshore Patrol Vessels class, at Goa. The first four of the five ICGS which have already been commissioned in 2020 are ICGS Sachet (1st); ICGS Sujeet (2nd); ICGS Sarthak (3rd); and ICGS Sajag (4th) in 2021.

### 3) 'LAMITIYE-2022'

The 9th edition of the Joint Military Exercise 'LAMITIYE-2022' between the Indian Army and Seychelles Defence Forces was held from March 22 to 31, 2022 at Seychelles Defence Academy (SDA), Seychelles. Exercise LAMITIYE is a biennial training event, been conducted in Seychelles since 2001.

## BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

### 1) "SmartHub Vyapar programme"

HDFC Bank has announced to launch the "SmartHub Vyapar programme" & 'AutoFirst' app the following two initiatives/application to give a digital push to small business loans. It is an app that bundles all cost platforms – playing cards, UPI, QR code, faucet pay and SMS-based funds.

## APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

### 1) N Biren Singh

Senior BJP leader N Biren Singh took the oath as Chief Minister of Manipur for a second consecutive five-year term on March 21, 2022. The ruling BJP party contested all 60 seats in the Manipur Assembly election in 2022 and won 32 seats.

### 2) Jayati Ghosh

United Nations Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres has announced the appointment of Indian development economist Jayati Ghosh as a member of the UN's newly established Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism.





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### 3) Serdar Berdimuhamedow

Serdar Berdimuhamedow has been sworn in as the President of Turkmenistan. Berdimuhamedow succeeds his father and former president Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, who became president in 2006 and served till 2022.

## ENVIRONMENT AND GEOGRAPHY

### 1) Golden Langur

A recent study by scientists has suggested a significant decline in the habitat of Golden Langur. Golden Langur are easily recognised by the colour of their fur, and are distributed in the trans-boundary region of Bhutan and India. Listed in Appendix I of CITES, as endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, and Schedule I of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

### 2) Keoladeo National Park

In Keoladeo National Park, Africa's Boma technique adopted for translocating deer from Keoladeo. Technique involves luring of animals into an enclosure by chasing them through a funnel-like fencing. It is designated as a Wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention in 1981.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### 1) World Water Day

World Water Day is celebrated globally on 22nd March every year. The day aims to highlight the importance of freshwater. It is used to advocate for the sustainable management of freshwater resources. The World Water Day theme 2022 is "Groundwater, Making the Invisible Visible".

### 2) World Down Syndrome Day

World Down Syndrome Day is observed every year on 21 March. It is a global campaign that is observed annually to spread awareness about Down Syndrome. This year theme: "Inclusion Means".

