

UNESCO Creative Cities Network Gwalior and Kozhikode included

- In the 42nd session.
- Official Announcement Date: October 31, 2023
- On the occasion of World Cities Day
- This time a total of 55 cities have been selected.
- Gwalior city of Madhya Pradesh was selected as the 'City of Music'.
- Kozhikode in the state of Kerala was selected as the 'City of Literature'.
- The great musician Tansen was a resident of Gwalior and the work of preserving and promoting the music of the city has been done by the Scindia Gharana for centuries.



Launch of three development projects between India and Bangladesh >>>>

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Launch of three development projects between India and Bangladesh

- **November 1, 2023**
- **Maitree Super Thermal Power Plant Unit -**
 - Construction work Start- April, 2017
 - It is a 1320 MW thermal power plant located at Rampal in Khulna Division of Bangladesh.
- **Khulna: Mongla Port Rail Line Project -**
 - 69.18 per cent of the total cost was financed from the Indian Line of Credit.
 - This project was included in India's first line of credit given to Bangladesh in 2010.
- **Khulna: The Mangla Rail Line Project** consists of approximately 65 km connecting the port and the existing Khulna rail network. Involves construction of broad gauge rail line.
- **Akhaura: Agartala Cross Border Rail Link Project-**
 - 6.78 km in Bangladesh = 5.46 km in Tripura (India).
 - 5.46 km in Tripura (India) - the dual gauge railway route
- **This rail link is 15 km long, of which 5 km is in India and 10 km in Bangladesh**



B61-13 >>>>

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B61-13

- America is preparing to make a new and more powerful nuclear bomb than before.
- However, the manufacturing of this bomb has not been approved in the Parliament.
- This will be a modernized version of the B61 nuclear gravity bomb.
- It will be constructed by 'National Nuclear Security Administration'.
- Its weight will be 360 kilotons.
- This nuclear bomb will replace B61-7.
- It will be 24 times more powerful than the bomb dropped on Japan and 14 times more powerful than the bomb dropped on Nagasaki.



Blue Flag Certification >>>>

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Blue Flag Certification

- 12 beaches in India have Blue Flag certification.
- It is awarded to beaches, marinas (small water areas for recreational activities near ports) and sustainable boating tourism operators.
- It is one of the most prestigious awards in the world.
- It started in France in 1985.
- This certification is awarded annually by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE), a Denmark-based non-governmental organization.
- Since 2001 it has been implemented outside Europe.
- To achieve the Blue Flag tag it is necessary to meet and maintain a series of rigorous environmental, educational, safety and accessibility criteria.



Rajaji Tiger Reserve >>>>

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Rajaji Tiger Reserve

- Recently the Government of Uttarakhand has decided to establish Rajaji Tiger Reserve Conservation Foundation.
- It is named after freedom fighter C Rajagopalachari. He was popularly known as "Rajaji".
- It is located in the foothills of the Shivalik range and in the transition zone between the temperate Western Himalayas and the Central Himalayas.
- Vegetation Type: The reserve consists of semi-evergreen to deciduous forests and mixed broad-leaved trees to lowland grasslands.
- Flora: Red Morning Glory, Malabar Melastoma, Sal trees etc.
- Wildlife: Tiger, Leopard, Himalayan Black Bear, Sloth Bear, Spotted Deer, Barking Deer – etc.
- Rivers Ganga and Song.



Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) Prachand >>>>

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Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) Prachand

- Recently the Indian Army successfully tested the rockets and turret guns fitted in the indigenously developed LCH Prachand helicopter.
- It was inducted into the Indian Air Force in 2022.
- LCH Prachand is a multirole combat helicopter.
- It has been designed and developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited.
- It is the only combat helicopter in the world in its category, which can both land and take off at an altitude of 5,000 meters.
- It is capable of firing air-to-ground and air-to-air missiles.
- It is powered by a 5.8-ton twin engine called Shakti Engine.
- It is primarily designed to be deployed in high-altitude areas (e.g. Siachen Glacier).
- It has excellent stealth features, an armoured shield system and dark mode attack capability.

