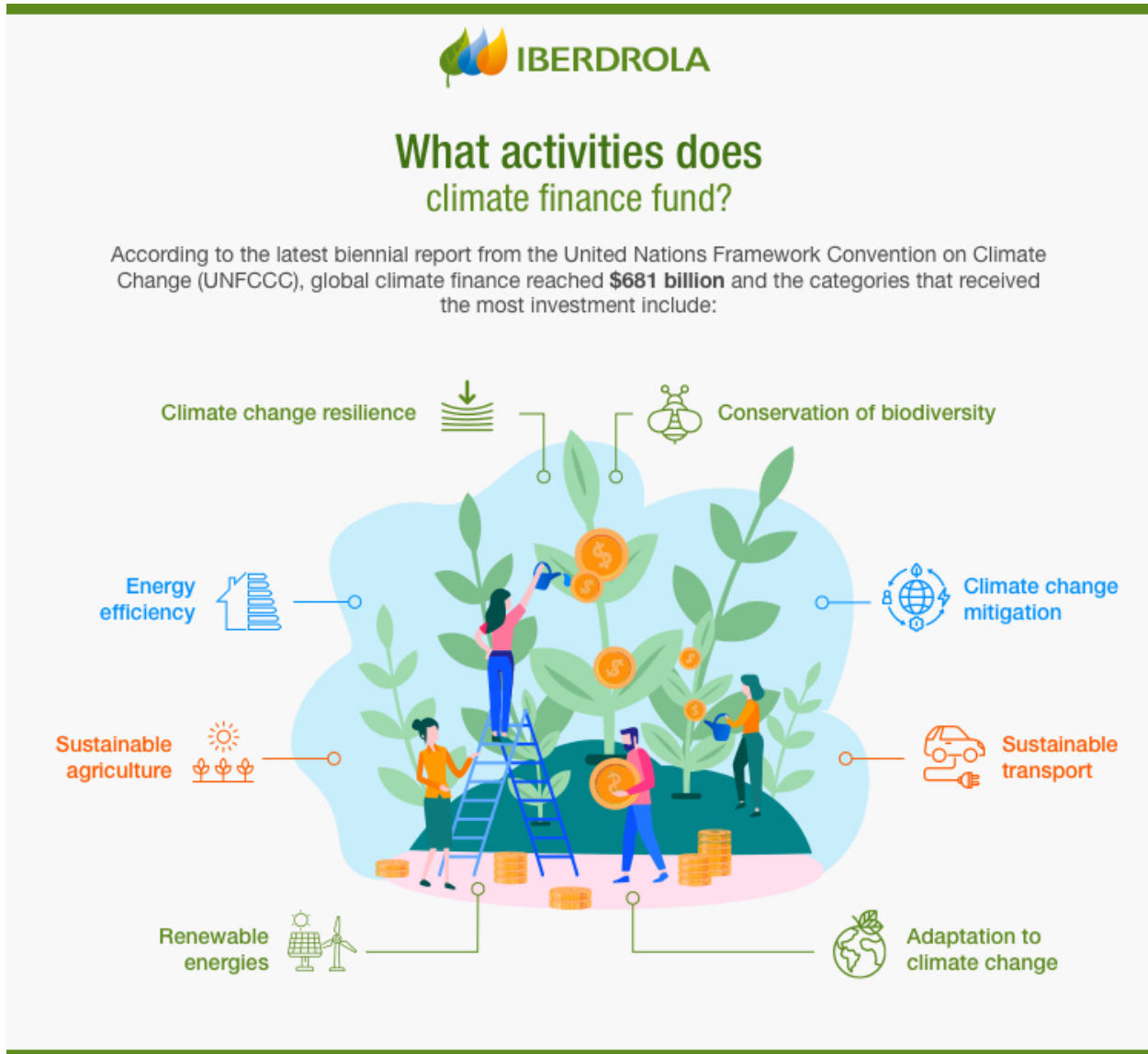


1. Paris Finance Meet



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What activities does climate finance fund?

According to the latest biennial report from the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), global climate finance reached **\$681 billion** and the categories that received the most investment include:

- Climate change resilience
- Conservation of biodiversity
- Energy efficiency
- Climate change mitigation
- Sustainable agriculture
- Sustainable transport
- Renewable energies
- Adaptation to climate change

Topic: Environment and Ecology

In News: The Summit for a New Global Financing Pact concluded in Paris recently.

More on the Topic

- The Summit was organised based on the objective is to boost **crisis financing for low-income states and ease their debt burdens, reform post-war financial systems and free up funds to tackle climate change.**
- The summit has brought together country leaders, finance ministers, and civil society organisations. A side event was held to discuss “polluter pays principle” as well.



Significant Announcements by the Summit:

- An additional lending capacity of \$200 billion of **Multi-Development Banks (MDBs) would be unlocked for emerging economies.**
- World Bank announced disaster clauses for debt deals that would suspend debt payment in case of extreme weather events.
- **Recycling of SDRs from rich countries to poor countries** has been proposed to expand the amount of concessional finance to developing countries.
- \$100bn is to be provided to poorer countries through SDRs (an international reserve provided by IMF).
- **New 2.5 billion Euro Just Energy Transition Partnerships (JETP)** deal was announced for Senegal to increase renewable share in energy mix.
- EU unveiled a call to action on **'Paris Aligned Carbon Markets'** with the goal of covering at least 60 percent of global emissions with carbon pricing mechanisms.
- Long overdue **\$100 billion climate finance goal** will be delivered this year (2023)

About Climate Finance:

- Climate finance refers to **local, national, or transnational financing.**
- The UNFCCC, **the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement call for financial assistance from Parties with more financial resources to those that are less endowed and more vulnerable.**
- Climate finance is needed for **mitigation**, because large-scale investments are required to significantly reduce emissions.
- Climate finance is equally important for **adaptation**, as significant financial resources are needed to adapt to the adverse effects and reduce the impacts of a changing climate.

Source: Indian Express

2.Lab Grown Meat

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In News: US has approved chicken made from cultivated cells.

More on the Topic:

About Lab grown Meat:

- It's meat grown from the cells of animals in steel tanks.
- Though it's known in the industry as cultivated meat, it's sometimes called cultured meat, lab-grown meat or cell-based meat.
- There are more than 150 companies around the world trying to develop these food products. They're working on a variety of meats: chicken, beef, pork and lamb.

How is it made?

- It starts with cells, which can come from a fertilized egg, a special bank of stored cells or tissue initially taken from a living animal.
- The cells are mixed with a broth of nutrients that the cells need to grow and divide.
- Cells are triggered to turn into skeletal muscle, fat and connective tissues.
- After days or weeks, the cells are removed from the tanks and shaped into products such as nuggets.

Benefits of Cell Cultivated/ Lab Grown Meat:

- **Less Stress on Resources:** Cultured meat requires much less land, uses less water, and produces less pollution. Compared to conventional beef, lab-grown meat requires 45% less energy use.
- **Green House Gas Reduction:** Traditional beef production makes lots of methane, carbon dioxide, and nitrous oxide, so-called greenhouse gases that contribute to global warming. Lab-grown meat could reduce these emissions significantly.
- Impacts positively on **Animal Rights**.
- Without changing dietary habits, it provides Nutritional security.



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- It can be **customised to be healthier than their animal counterpart**, such as being designed to contain less fat.

Source: Hindu

3. Hoysala Dynasty

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Topic: Art and Culture

In News: The temples in the Mandya district of Karnataka, belonging to the period of the Hoysalas, have failed to grab as much attention as they deserve.

More on the Topic:



- The Hoysala Empire was one of the powerful forces that ruled parts of southern India between the 10th and 14th centuries.
- Hoysalas were feudatories of **chalukyas of Kalyana**.
- **The capital of the Hoysalas was initially located at Belur but was later moved to Halebidu.**
- The reign of the Hoysala Empire led to the development of South Indian art, architecture, and religion, and its legacy lies mainly in the Hoysala architecture.
- **Sala** was the founder of this dynasty.
- He was succeeded by Vinayaditya and Balalla 1.
- **Vishnuvardhana(Bittideva)** was greatest in Hoysala dynasty.
- He completely routed Cholas from Gangavadi in battle of Talakadu, for this he got the title Talkadugonda.
- In commemoration of this victory he built **kirtinarayana temple at Talakadu** and Chennakesavar temple at Beluru.

Hoysala temples:

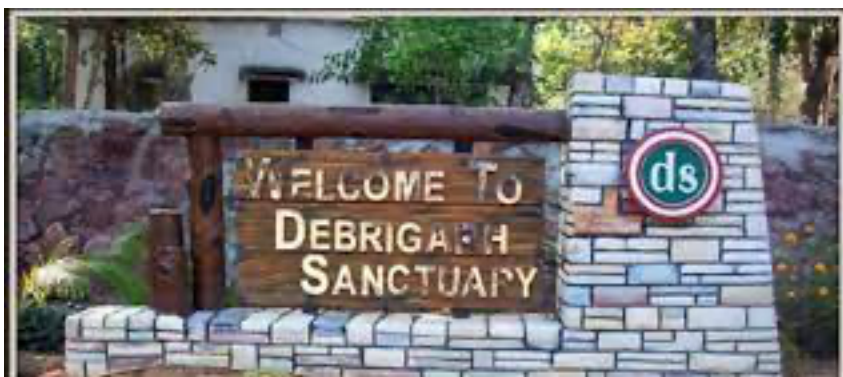
- Hoysala temples are sometimes called **hybrid or vesara** as their unique style seems **between Dravida and Nagara styles**.
- The Hoysala temples contain **multiple shrines grouped around a central pillared hall and laid out in the shape of an intricately-designed star**.
- They are made out of **soapstone which is a relatively soft stone**.
- They are easily distinguishable from other medieval temples by their **highly original star-like ground-plans and a profusion of decorative carvings**.

Examples of Hoysala temples are:

- Channakeshava temple at Beluru
- Hoysaleshvara temple at Halebidu
- Keshava temple Somnathpura
- They constructed **Jain Basadis as well**.
- Eg. Savathi Gandhavarana Basadi at Shravanabelagola.

Source: Hindu

4. Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary



Topic: Environment and Ecology

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In News: Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary of Odisha has recorded higher prey density.

More on the Topic:

- It is located near the reservoir of Hirakud Dam, built on Mahanadi River.
- The forest is occupied by the species of tigers, leopards, sloth bears, chitals, sambars, and nilgais, along with a range of resident and migratory birds including the chousingha and the crested serpent eagle.
- To make the woodland environs more colorful, there are **mugger crocodiles and freshwater turtles, among others.**

Source: Hindu

5.UN Office For Outer Space Affairs

Topic: Science and Technology

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In News: UN Secretary-General has appointed Indian-origin satellite industry expert Aarti Holla-Maini as Director of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA).

More on the Topic:

- UNOOSA works to promote international cooperation in the peaceful use and exploration of space and in the utilisation of space science and technology for sustainable economic and social development.
- On behalf of the UN Secretary-General, UNOOSA maintains the Register of Objects Launched into Outer Space and disseminates via its website that information recorded in the Register.
- It also prepares and distributes documents, reports, studies and publications on various aspects of space science and technology applications and international space law.

Source: Business Standard

6. NANDI Portal

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In News: Govt has launched Nandi portal for facilitating the process of granting No Objection Certificates (NOC) for veterinary drugs and vaccines.

More on the Topic:

- The Nandi portal, developed by the **Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD)** in collaboration with the **Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO)**, will streamline the regulatory approval process for veterinary products.
- It will **enhance transparency and efficiency** in assessing and examining proposals for veterinary drugs and vaccines.
- It will promote the well-being of livestock and the livestock industry.
- It will bring about growth and innovation by enabling **quick and easy coordination** between various Government Departments, Institutes

Source: Indian Express

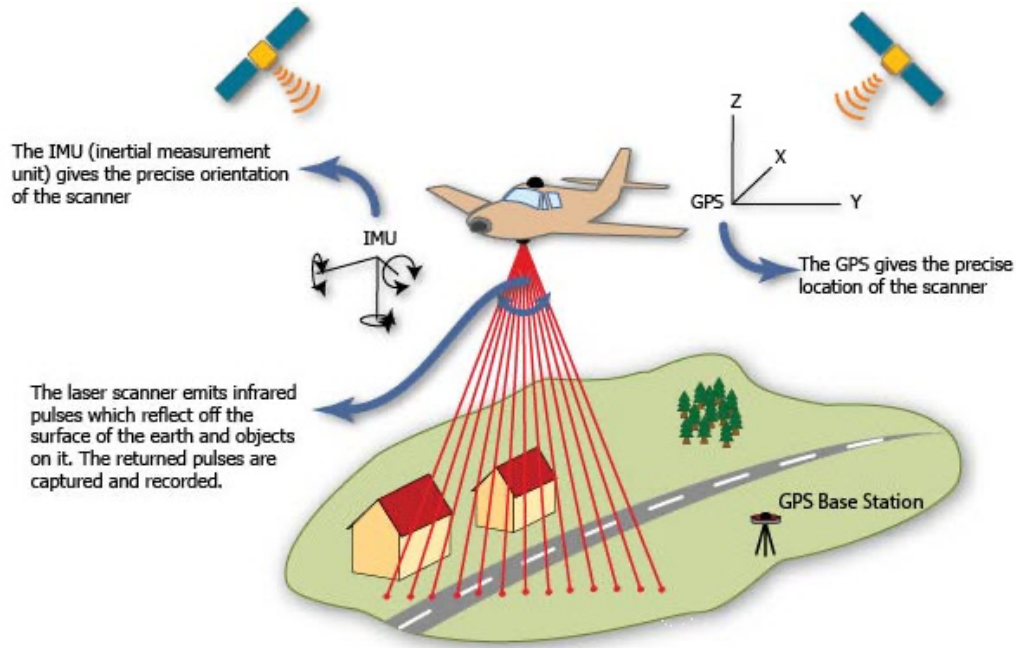
7. Light Detection and Ranging

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Topic: Science and Technology

In News: According to new research report, LiDAR Market could thrive at a rate of 22.10% between 2022 and 2030.

More on the Topic:

- LiDAR, (**Light Detection and Ranging**), is a remote sensing method used for measuring the exact distance of an object on the earth's surface.
- These light pulses combined with other data recorded by the airborne system generate precise, **three-dimensional information about the shape of the Earth and its surface characteristics.**
- A lidar instrument principally consists of a **laser, a scanner, and a specialised GPS receiver.**
- **Airplanes and helicopters are the most commonly used platforms for acquiring lidar data** over broad areas. Two types of lidar are topographic and bathymetric.
- Topographic lidar typically uses a near-infrared laser to map the land, while bathymetric lidar uses water-penetrating green light to also measure seafloor and riverbed elevations.
- Lidar systems allow scientists and mapping professionals to examine both natural and manmade environments with accuracy, precision, and flexibility.

Source: Business Standard