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Daily News Analysis

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1. Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve

- **Prelims** - Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Environment (Biodiversity Conservation)

Why in the news?

- Madhya Pradesh CM announced that the Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve will be developed as a cheetah habitat.

Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve

- **Location:** Madhya Pradesh
- **Features:**
 - Encompasses parts of **Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary** and **Durgavati Wildlife Sanctuary**.
 - Named after **Rani Durgavati**, the queen of the **Gondi people**.
 - Lies across the **Narmada and Yamuna river basins**
 - One of the few remaining strongholds of **Critically Endangered White-rumped Vulture** and **Indian Vulture**.
 - A **green corridor** will be developed to link **Panna Tiger Reserve (PTR)** with **Durgavati Tiger Reserve** to facilitate **natural tiger movement**.
- **Major Flora and Fauna:**
 - **Flora:** Dry deciduous forest including Teak, Saja, Dhaora etc.
 - **Fauna:** Tiger, Leopard, Wolf, Nilgai, Chinkara, Chital, Sambhar, Black Buck, Barking Deer, Common Langur, Rhesus Macaque etc.



2. Siliserh Lake and Kopra Jalashay

- **Prelims** - Siliserh Lake and Kopra Jalashay
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Environment (Biodiversity Conservation)

Why in the news?

- Two new wetlands- Siliserh Lake and Kopra Jalashay designated as Ramsar Sites.

Siliserh Lake

- **Location:** Rajasthan
- **Features:**
 - A **human-made lake** situated within the **buffer zone of Sariska Tiger Reserve**.
 - Lies in a **semi-arid zone** and serves as an **important water source** for diverse regional species
 - Supports **more than 1% of the biogeographic population of Black Stork**.

Kopra Jalashay

- **Location:** Chhattisgarh
- **Features:**
 - A **reservoir** in the **upper catchments of the River Mahanadi**.
 - Supports **over 60 migratory bird species**, functioning as a **nesting, feeding, and stopover site**.

Ramsar Sites in India:

- India currently houses 96 Ramsar Sites.
- First designated Ramsar Site was Chilika Lake in Odisha, recognised in 1981.
- Tamil Nadu has the highest number of Ramsar Sites in India, followed by Uttar Pradesh.



3. Perumbidugu Mutharaiyar

- **Prelims** - Perumbidugu Mutharaiyar
- **Mains** - GS 1 - Ancient and Medieval (Pallava Period)

Why in the news?

- The Vice President of India released a commemorative postage stamp in honour of the king Perumbidugu Mutharaiyar II (Suvaran Maran).

Perumbidugu Mutharaiyar (705 to 745 AD)

- **Who is he?**: Perumbidugu Mutharaiyar II, also known as Suvaran Maran is a feudatory under the Pallava dynasty.
- **Titles**: “Thanjai Kon”
- **Area**: Thanjavur, Tiruchirappalli, Pudukkottai, Perambalur, and Thiruvarur regions.
- **Religious and Cultural Contributions**
 - The Pallava period witnessed a revival of Hinduism amid the earlier dominance of Jainism and Buddhism.
 - Patronised Shivasim.
 - A Jain monk, Acharya Vimalachandra, visited his court and debated Shaivas, Pasupatas, Buddhists, and Kapalikas, indicating a vibrant intellectual and religious milieu.
- **Architectural Significance**
 - The Mutharaiyars played an important role in the development of South Indian temple architecture.
 - They were involved in cave temple construction and early structural stone temples.
 - Scholars credit the Mutharaiyars with influencing early Chola architecture, especially before the rise of the Vijayalaya Chola line.
 - Inscriptions at Senthalai Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple record his genealogy, titles, and religious devotion.
- **Fall**: The defeat of the Mutharaiyars by Vijayalaya Chola, through the capture of Thanjavur, marked a major political transition in Tamil history.



4. Ponduru Khadi

- **Prelims** - Ponduru Khadi
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Science and Technology (Intellectual Property)

Why in the news?

- Ponduru Khadi received the GI tag.

Ponduru Khadi

- **What is it?:** Ponduru Khadi is a renowned handspun and handwoven cotton fabric from Andhra Pradesh
- **Importance:**
 - During the **pre-independence period**, Mahatma Gandhi highlighted the virtues of the fabric in **Young India**, the national weekly edited by him.
 - Nominated under the **One District One Product (ODOP)** scheme for Srikakulam district.
 - Locally known as **Patnulu**
- **Characteristics:**
 - **Cleaning Method:** Cotton is cleaned using the **jawbone of the Valuga fish**, a practice unique to Ponduru Khadi
 - Ponduru is the **only place in India** where spinners still use **single-spindle charkhas with 24 spokes**, known as the Gandhi Charkha.
 - The fabric has a **very high yarn count of about 100–120 counts**.
 - The production process is **entirely manual**.