



01/04/24 - 06/04/24



C.A. SHORTS

GAGAN - THE DESERVING INDIA



**Geographical
Indication (GI)
Tags**

अमूल्य भारत की अमूल्य निधि
Valuable Treasures of Incredible India





Geographical Indication (GI) Tags

GI TAG

Recently the Geographical Indication registry of India added 22 new products from the states of Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Tripura, and Meghalaya.

Over 60 products across India, including Banaras Thandai, have been given the geographical indication(GI)tag.

About GI Registry

Established under the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999, the GI registry grants legal protection to products. The Geographical Indication (GI) registry is a system that recognizes and protects products with unique characteristics, qualities, or reputation associated with their geographical origin.



KATCHATHEEVU ISLAND ISSUE

Katchatheevu is an uninhabited island of Sri Lanka in the Palk strait, formed from a 14th century volcanic eruption.

It is located 33 kilometres from Rameswaram, India.

Initially a disputed territory between India and srilanka overfishing, the dispute was resolved in 1974 when India renounced its claim to the island in exchange for fishing rights for Indian fisherman.

The island was given away to Sri Lanka without consulting the state legislative assembly.

In 1991, the Tamil nadu assembly adopted a resolution demanding the retrieval of Katchatheevu

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VAIKOM SATYAGRAHA

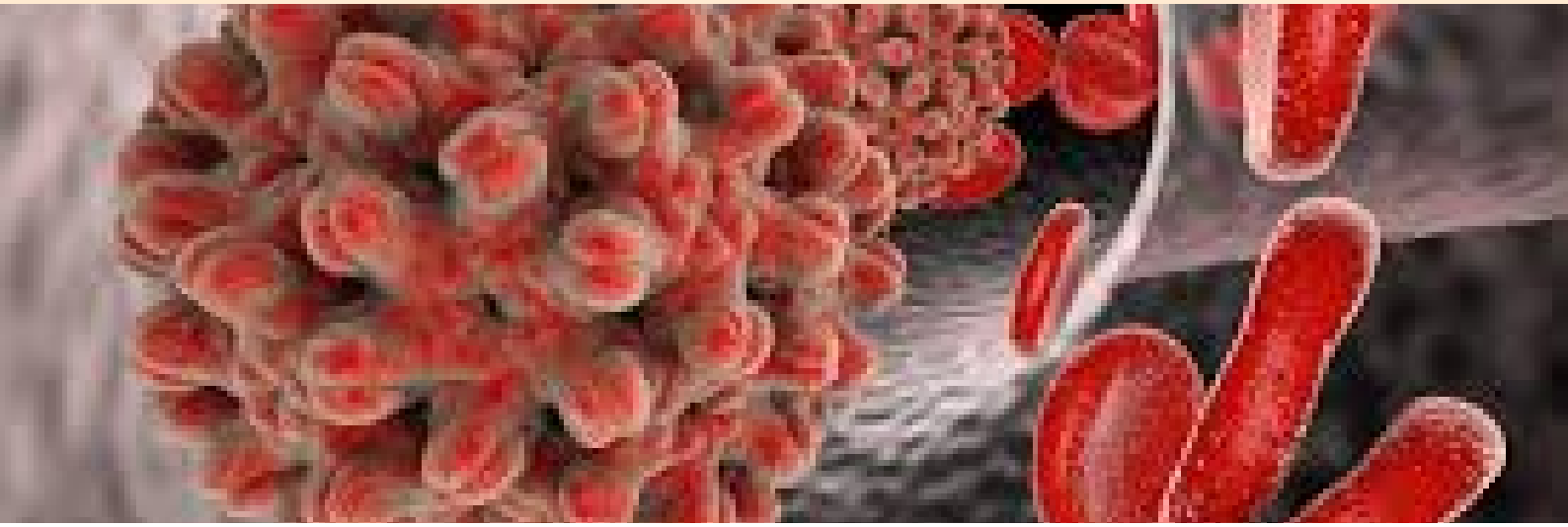
This year April 1st marks 100 years of the Vaikom Satyagraha, in Kottayam, Kerala.

About Vaikom Satyagraha Vaikom was the epicentre of the Vaikom Satyagraha, which began in 1924.

This movement aimed to challenge the ban imposed on marginalised communities from entering the vicinity of the Vaikom Mahadevar Temple in the princely state of Travancore.

It sparked similar temple entry movements across India, advocating for the rights of untouchables and backward castes.

It introduced nonviolent public protest as a method of resistance in Kerala



HEPATITIS B

A recent study by Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, New Delhi, revealed alarming deficiencies in public knowledge (transmission, effects & vaccination) about Hepatitis B in India.

Despite the availability of a vaccine for over 30 years, HBV infection rates remain high in India, with prevalence estimates ranging from 2% to 8% and approximately 37 million carriers nationwide.

About Hepatitis

Hepatitis is a medical condition characterised by inflammation of the liver.

It can be caused by various factors, including viral infections (hepatitis viruses), alcohol consumption, certain medications, toxins, autoimmune diseases, and metabolic disorders.



EMPATHIC VOICE INTERFACE

Recently, Hume, a prominent research lab and tech firm based in New York, has unveiled Empathic Voice Interface , the world's first conversational AI endowed with emotional intelligence.

About Empathic Voice Interface

Hume's Empathic Voice Interface is powered by its proprietary empathic large language model. It can decipher tones, word emphasis, and emotional cues, improving the quality of interactions.



UNCTAD REPORT

Recently, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development Global Trade Report revealed an evolving trade landscape for India, marked by increased reliance on China and the European Union.

Key Highlights of the Report:

Trade Trends:

India's trade dependence on China and the EU rose by 1.2%, while reliance on Saudi Arabia declined by 0.6%.

Factors:

This shift occurred amidst supply chain disruptions caused by the pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine conflict, leading to record-high food and fuel prices.



WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY

World Autism Awareness Day is on April 2nd every year.

Aim: To raise awareness and support for people with autism.

Theme: “Empowering Autistic Voices.”





CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL

The Allahabad High Court clarified the appellate jurisdiction concerning orders issued by the Central Administrative Tribunal in contempt proceedings.

The court ruled that appeals against CAT contempt orders must be filed exclusively before the Supreme Court under Section 19 of the Contempt of court Act, 1971.

Central Administrative Tribunal :

The CAT is a specialized quasi-judicial body in India established under Article 323-A of the Constitution of India. Its primary function is to adjudicate disputes and complaints related to recruitment and service conditions of government employees. CAT was set up to provide a speedy and inexpensive remedy to government employees in matters concerning their service conditions and employment disputes.



ISRO'S NICES PROGRAMME COMBATTING CLIMATE CHANGE

NICES programme invites Indian researchers to join in combating climate change.

About NICES Program: The NICES Programme is operated by the ISRO and the Department of Space. It was launched in 2012.

It operates within the framework of the National Action Plan on Climate Change.

Aims: To enhance the participation of Indian researchers in addressing climate change-related challenges through multidisciplinary scientific investigations.

Focus Areas: Potential areas for project submission include Space-based Essential Climate Variables (ECVs) and Climate Indicators, Climate Change Challenges, Weather Extremes, and Climate Services.

Solar surge: Moving away from imported solar panels. The government is finally bringing into effect the policy of an Approved list of Models and Manufacturers (ALMM) that will discourage solar power project developers from relying on imported panels.



ABOUT APPROVED MODELS AND MANUFACTURERS OF SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC MODULES ORDER, 2019:

Aim:

To boost domestic manufacturing of solar panels by registering only those made with domestically manufactured cells, wafers, and polysilicon.

Compulsory Registration:

The order mandates compulsory registration for solar PV module and cell manufacturers, ensuring they meet certain quality and production standards.

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Zero FIR

ZERO FIR

Recently, the Hyderabad Police have initiated a zero FIR case against the former minister.

About First Information Report :

An FIR is a written document prepared by the police upon receiving information about a cognisable offence. It is when an officer can arrest a suspect without a court's warrant if/she has "reason to believe" that the person committed the offence and arrest is necessary based on certain factors.

About Zero FIR

Provision and Purpose:

Zero FIR allows any police station to register an FIR for a cognisable offence without assigning a regular FIR number initially. Soil Extraction for Linear Projects.

Why SC Barred Unregulated Soil Extraction for Linear Projects.

Recently, the SC revoked the notification given by the Environment Ministry to exempt the extraction of ordinary earth for linear projects, such as road and railway construction.

What was the Notification that Exempted Extraction of Ordinary Earth for Linear Projects?

In 2006, the Environment Ministry had issued a notification under the Environment (Protection) Act 1986 on activities that would require prior EC.

In 2016, a 2nd notification was issued, exempting certain categories of projects from this requirement.

The 3rd notification of 2020 added “Extraction or sourcing or borrowing of ordinary earth for the linear projects such as roads, pipelines, etc” to the list of exempted activities.



PARADIP PORT

Paradip Port: India's Leading Major Port in Cargo Handling.

About Paradip Port

Paradip Port is situated at the confluence of the Mahanadi River and the Bay of Bengal in the Jagatsinghpur district of Odisha.

It has a natural deep-water harbour, allowing it to accommodate large vessels and handle bulk cargo efficiently. The port was commissioned in 1966 to serve as a gateway for the maritime trade of eastern India.

Paradip Port Trust, a statutory body under the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963, manages and operates the port. 90 years of the Reserve Bank of India

Recently, the RBI celebrated its 90th year in Mumbai.



ABOUT RESERVE BANK OF INDIA

The RBI is the central bank and monetary authority of India. It was established on April 1, 1935, under the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.

Its idea was conceived from the recommendations of the Hilton Young Commission.

He was succeeded by Sir C D Deshmukh, the first Indian to hold the position.

It is a centralized institution for India to effectively regulate its monetary and credit policies.

RBI had its initial headquarters in Kolkata, later moving permanently to Mumbai in 1937.

Initially, the RBI operated as a privately owned entity until its full nationalization in 1949.

South Asia, India risk squandering demographic dividend: World Bank Recently, the 'Job for Resilience Report' was published by the World Bank.

The Report talks about how the South Asia region including India is not making use of its demographic dividend.

The pace of job creation in the region fell well short of the growth in the working-age population, even as it projected a strong 6.0-6.1% growth for 2024-25 for the region in its South Asia region.'

Report on Indian Scenario:

Trends in employment and labour productivity:

The employment ratio declined significantly until 2022 but partially recovered by 3 percentage points in 2023.

Migrant workers:

In India, Migrant workers returned to rural areas, and emigration from rural areas slowed, during the pandemic. India has the region's second-largest share of workers in agriculture after Nepal.



NAGARJUNASAGAR-SRISAILAM TIGER RESERVE

The Forest Department and a temple authority at Ahobilam have imposed certain restrictions on visitors arriving at a shrine in Nagarjunasagar-Srisaillam Tiger Reserve.

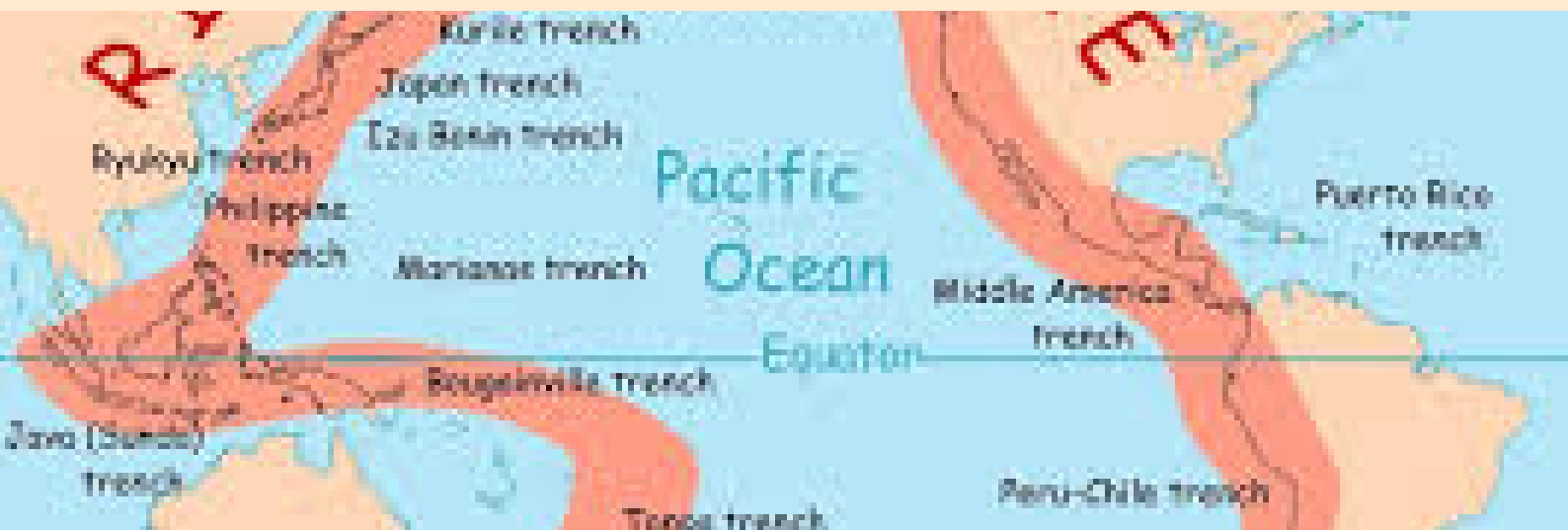
About Nagarjunasagar-Srisaillam Tiger Reserve

Origin of Name : Nagarjuna Sagar Dam and Srisaillam Dam.

Location : Situated in the Nallamala hill range, part of the Eastern Ghats in Andhra Pradesh.

Area : Largest tiger reserve area in India, covering a total area of 3727 sq km.

Vegetation : Features tropical, dry, moist, deciduous vegetation with diverse flora and fauna.



TAIWAN'S EARTHQUAKE AND THE PACIFIC RING OF FIRE

Taiwan was struck by its most powerful earthquake in at least 25 years. Its susceptibility to earthquakes is attributed to its location along the Pacific “Ring of Fire” where a majority of the world’s seismic activity occurs.

About Pacific ‘Ring of Fire’

The Pacific ‘Ring of Fire’ or Pacific Rim, or the Circum-Pacific Belt, is an area along the Pacific Ocean that is characterized by active volcanoes and frequent earthquakes.

Volcanic arcs and oceanic trenches partly encircling the Pacific Basin form the so- called Ring of Fire.

THE DESERVING INDIA



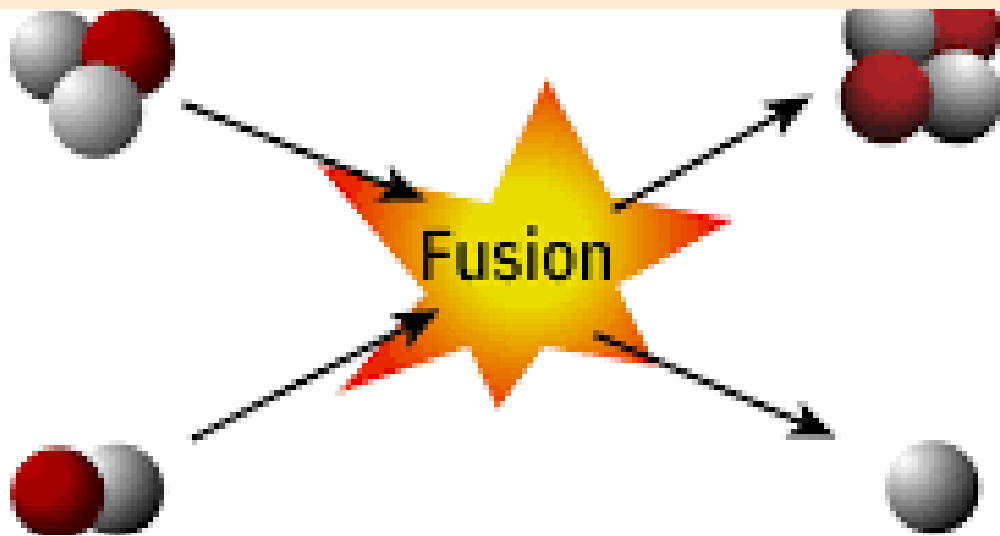
MOTHER OF DRAGONS COMET

A Rare Celestial Phenomenon The “Mother of Dragons” comet, officially named Comet 12P/Pons-Brooks, is making a rare appearance in the Northern Hemisphere skies.

This Halley-type comet, completing its orbit every 71 years, has emerged marking its first sighting since 1954.

What is a Comet?

A comet is a celestial object composed primarily of ice, dust, and rocky particles that orbit the Sun in elongated, elliptical paths. These icy bodies originate from the outer regions of the solar system, specifically from two regions: the Kuiper Belt and the Oort Cloud. Comets are often referred to as “dirty snowballs” or “icy dirtballs” due to their composition.



NUCLEAR FUSION

KSTAR reaches a temperature of 100 million Celsius. Recently, South Korean scientists at the Korea Institute of Fusion Energy achieved a significant milestone by producing temperatures of 100 million Celsius for 48 seconds in the Korea Superconducting Tokamak Advanced Research fusion reactor.

KSTAR maintained the high confinement mode (H-mode) for over 100 seconds, demonstrating stability in plasma conditions crucial for sustained fusion reactions.

Significance of KSTAR's achievements

Achieving sustained fusion reactions in laboratory conditions unlocks the potential for unlimited, zero-carbon electricity generation. Progress in fusion research at KSTAR contributes to international efforts, supporting projects like the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor in France.

Caracals on the brink of extinction in India

With only an estimated 50 individuals remaining, predominantly in western India, the caracal is on the verge of extinction in the country.

Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan and Kutch in Gujarat are the last strongholds for caracals in India, hosting around 28 and 20 individuals, respectively.

About Caracals

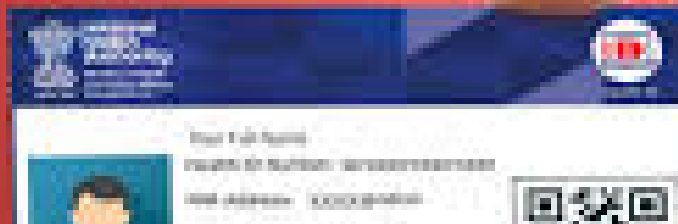
Caracals are small wild cats known for their long ears with tufts and a reddish-tan or sandy-brown fur. It is called Siya Gosh in India.

It is nocturnal animal typically preys upon small mammals, birds, and rodents.

They live naturally in India, especially in Northwestern India. They are also found in Africa, the Middle East, and Central Asia.

Caracals used to live all over Central India and the Indo-Gangetic plains, but they haven't been spotted in those areas for 40 years.

Ayushman Bharat Health Account



AYUSHMAN BHARAT HEALTH ACCOUNTS (ABHA)

ABHA, an integral part of the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, serves as a link for all health records of an individual.

It is a sub-component of the Ayushman Bharat digital mission launched in September 2021.

It is a 14-digit id employed to uniquely identify individuals, verify their identity, and connect their health records (with their consent) across various systems and stakeholders.

Features of ABHA

Cashless Transactions:

ABHA enables cashless transactions for eligible beneficiaries, reducing the financial burden during medical emergencies.

ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORDS :

It integrates electronic health records, facilitating storage, and retrieval of patient information for streamlined healthcare delivery.

Portability:

ABHA accounts are portable across various healthcare providers under the Ayushman Bharat scheme, ensuring seamless access to services.





NATO

Recently, NATO grandly commemorated its 75th anniversary.

About NATO:

Changed Objective:

NATO was established to defend its member states from aggression but has engaged in offensive military actions.

Cause of Military conflicts worldwide:

Over the last seven decades, NATO has initiated or participated in more than 200 military conflicts worldwide, including major ones.

Role in the creation of ISIS:

Critics argue that instead of bringing peace and stability, NATO's actions have led to damage, casualties, destruction, and alienation.



PROVOKING RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR:

Its expansion since 1991, despite assurances to the contrary, and its actions in Ukraine are seen as provocative moves against Russia.





NEXCAR-19

India's First Indigenous CAR T- Cell Therapy for Cancer NexCAR19 is designed to target cancer cells carrying the CD19 protein, a marker on cancer cells, enhancing precision in treatment.

It has been developed jointly by IIT Bombay and the Tata Memorial Centre. Initially approved for patients aged 15 and above with B-cell lymphomas who did not respond to standard treatments, leading to relapse or recurrence.

Features

Approximately 70% of patients respond to NexCAR19 treatment, with some achieving complete remission. Lab and animal studies indicate lower drug-related toxicities, including reduced neurotoxicity and Cytokine Release Syndrome .

Trials for paediatric patients are underway at Tata Memorial Hospital, ensuring broader applicability.



CRIOLLO

Cattle Breed that can withstand Climate Change

Recently, Irish researchers discovered that Criollo cattle are well-adapted to Climate Change due to their ability to thrive in hot and humid conditions.

Historical Context

Criollo cattle trace their roots back to the arrival of Spanish cattle in the Americas during the 15th and 16th centuries. Initially brought from La Gomera in the Spanish Canary Islands, adapted to diverse environments.

Adaptability :

Known for their resilience and ability to thrive in harsh environments. Well-suited to extensive grazing systems and low-input management practices.

Disease Resistance :

Developed natural resistance to various diseases prevalent in their native regions, such as tick-borne illnesses and parasites.

Economic Importance :

Valued for their ability to utilize low-quality forages and adaptability to diverse environment.





INDIAN LAUREL TREE

Recently, Forest Department officials' examination of an Indian laurel tree in Papikonda National Park has showcased its remarkable water storage capability.

This discovery sheds light on the indigenous knowledge shared by the Konda Reddi tribe regarding the tree's unique attributes.

About Konda Reddi Tribe

The Konda Reddis are residing Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group in the Godavari riverbanks and the hilly forest areas of Godavari and Khammam districts in Andhra Pradesh.

The family structure is patriarchal and patrilocal, with monogamy as the norm with some exceptions.

The Konda Reddis are primarily Hindus with folk customs, which involves local traditions and worship of community-level deities.

They have their own social control institution called 'Kula Panchayat'

Invest in Government Securities

Safe... Simple... Direct !!!

Open RBI Retail Direct Account

RBI TO LAUNCH MOBILE APP FOR RETAIL DIRECT SCHEME

Recently, RBI has decided to introduce a Mobile App of its RBI Retail Direct scheme.

Aim: At facilitating seamless investment in government securities by retail investors.

About Retail Direct Scheme

Retail Direct Scheme was rolled out in November 2021, giving access to individual investors to maintain gilt accounts with RBI and invest in government securities.

Using this app, investors can buy central and state government bonds as well as

Treasury bills.

It enables investors to buy securities in primary auctions as well as buy/sell securities through the Negotiated Dealing System-Order Matching system platform.



RAKHIGARHI

Recently, the National Council of Educational Research and Training has proposed to add information about the DNA analysis of skeletal remains found at Rakhigarhi.

About Rakhigarhi

The ancient sites of Rakhi-Khas and Rakhi-Shahpur are collectively known as Rakhigarhi, located on the right bank of the now dried up Palaeo-channel of Drishadvati.

It is located in the Ghaggar-Hakra River plain in the Hisar district of Haryana.

Total seven mounds are located here.

The site has yielded various stages of Harappan culture and is by far one of the largest Harappan sites in India.



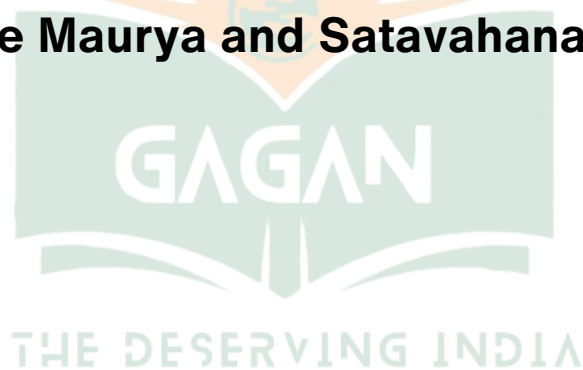
SANNATI BUDDHIST STUPA

Sannati is a small village on the banks of the River Bhima in Chittapur Taluka of Kalaburagi (Gulbarga).

In 1994 ASI commenced excavations at nearby village Kanaganahalli, unearthing remarkable relics.

Among the findings was the Adholoka Maha Chaitya, or the Great Stupa of the Netherworlds.

It dates back to the Maurya and Satavahana periods.





CIDC VISHWAKARMA AWARDS 2024

Recently, SJVN Limited has won two prestigious awards at the 15th Construction Industry Development Council Vishwakarma Awards 2024, for their Corporate **Social Responsibility initiatives.**

About CIDC Vishwakarma Awards

The CIDC Vishwakarma Awards is one of the most esteemed recognitions within the construction sector. It was launched in 2005.

The awards are named after Vishwakarma, the divine architect and engineer in Hindu mythology, symbolizing craftsmanship, creativity, and skill in construction.