



Rapid Fire Current Affairs

The Solomon Islands and China Strengthen Relations



The **Solomon Islands** and **China** have reinforced their ties through agreements on **police, economic, and technical cooperation**. This comes after the Solomon Islands switched diplomatic **ties from Taiwan to China in 2019**. China aims to further expand relations and trade through initiatives like the **Belt and Road Initiative**, fostering economic and geopolitical interests in the **South Pacific**. The growing partnership between the Solomon Islands and China draws attention to regional dynamics and raises implications for international relations.

The Solomon Islands is a **Melanesian nation in Oceania, east of Papua New Guinea**, with over 990 islands. Its capital is Honiara on Guadalcanal, and it has a rich history of Melanesian habitation for 30,000 years.

Read more: [Solomon Islands](#)

Supreme Court Upholds Rights of Non-Notified Forest Inhabitants

The **Supreme Court of India**, in a recent hearing, has acknowledged that **forest inhabitants beyond Adivasi or backward communities** have the **right to be heard before eviction** from **forest lands they occupy**. The court's decision, based on the **Forest Rights Act of 2006**, recognizes that **non-notified forest dwellers are integral to forest communities**, even **if they lack official recognition** due to socio-political and economic factors.

The Forest Rights Act of 2006 **recognizes and grants legal rights to forest-dwelling tribal communities** and other traditional forest dwellers, enabling them to **access and manage forest resources**. It aims to protect the rights of these communities, **promote sustainable forest management, and ensure their socio-economic well-being**.

Read more: [Forest Rights Act of 2006](#)

Product Design Centre and Grain-Ex System

The [Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology \(MeitY\)](#), **Government of India** has inaugurated the **Product Design Centre (PDC) at the [Centre for Development of Advanced Computing \(C-DAC\), Kolkata](#)**, provides state-of-the-art facilities for system designing, prototyping, ideation, and fabrication. This center is poised to benefit **startups, entrepreneurs, and MSMEs** in the region by offering them access to cutting-edge software and printing technologies.

In addition to the PDC launch, a revolutionary **appearance-based detection system**, known as **Grain-Ex**, was also unveiled during the event. Developed in collaboration with **ICAR-IARI, New Delhi**, as part of the '**National programme on Electronics and ICT applications in Agriculture and Environment (AgriEnIcs)**,' Grain-Ex employs machine vision technology to detect the quality of pulses accurately. This system promises to bring about a transformative change in the **e-NAM markets**, enabling quality-based pricing and benefiting over **1,200 e-NAM connected markets**.

Read more: [Centre for Development of Advanced Computing](#), [e-NAM markets](#).

World Population Day

[World Population Day](#) is observed on **July 11th every year** to raise awareness about global population issues and the importance of reproductive health and rights. It was established by the [United Nations in 1989](#).

The history of World Population Day dates back to **July 11, 1987**, when the global population reached a significant milestone of **five billion people**. This event served as a catalyst for recognising the need to address population-related concerns such as poverty, health, education, and sustainability.

Theme for World Population Day 2023 is "**Unleashing the power of gender equality: Uplifting the voices of women and girls to unlock our world's infinite possibilities.**"

Read more: [World Population Day](#), [United Nations](#).

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