

Current Affairs - 23rd November 2024

1. Coking Coal as a Critical Mineral



- Recommendation by NITI Aayog: Inclusion of coking coal in India's critical minerals list to boost domestic production and reduce reliance on imports (currently 85%).
- Importance: Key for steel and infrastructure, aligning with India's Net Zero goals for 2070.

2. Self-Sufficient Gaushala in Gwalion



Inauguration: PM Modi launched India's first modern, self-sufficient gaushala in Gwalior.

Special Feature: Equipped with a state-of-the-art Compressed Bio-Gas (CBG) plant to promote green energy and sustainability.

3. India-UK FTA Talks to Resume



- Announcement: UK PM Keir Starmer and Indian PM Modi confirmed negotiations to restart in early 2025.
- Focus: Strengthening trade (valued at GBP 42 billion annually) and strategic partnerships in various sectors.

4. Ngusaba Goreng Festival in Bali



Celebration: Thanksgiving festival marked by sacred dances (Rejang Dewa, Rejang Pucuk) and gratitude rituals for a bountiful harvest.

5. Political Changes in Mali



 Update: Abdoulaye Maiga replaced Choguel Maiga as PM amid criticism of the junta's democratic transition.

6. Cyclone Fengal in Tamil Nadu



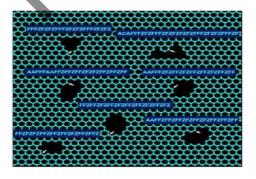
- IMD Alert: Cyclone forming in Bay of Bengal; heavy rains predicted for Tamil
 Nadu
- o **Progression**: Expected to evolve from a Low Pressure Area into a depression.

7. Sea Vigil 24 Exercise



- Conclusion: India's largest coastal defense exercise concluded, covering 11,098 km of coastline and involving 21 agencies.
- o **Objective**: Strengthening maritime security and coastal resilience.

8. IISc's STRONG Tool for Nanopore Research



 Introduction: A new language to encode nanopore shapes, aiding ML models in predicting properties and advancing materials science.

9. Guru Tegh Bahadur's Shaheedi Diwas



 Observance: Tribute to the ninth Sikh Guru for his sacrifices and stand against injustice.

10. PM Modi Honored



Recognition: Received the 'Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Global Peace Award' for efforts in minority welfare and inclusive development.