

# Testwale Current Affairs PDF

Current Affairs search results for tag: science-and-technology

## 1. Science and Technology ( Dec. 12, 2021 )

### 1. Two wild plant species are now extinct!

According to the Journal of Threatened Taxa two species of plants **Boesenbergia rubrolutea** and **Boesenbergia albolutea**, first collected by botanists more than 125 years ago from Meghalaya and the Andaman Islands are now extinct in the wild.

## 2. Science and Technology ( Dec. 5, 2021 )

### COVID-19

#### 1. Omicron, “variant of concern”: Impact on World

With the emergence of **Omicron and its virulence** yet uncertain, concerns have emerged about whether the third dose of COVID vaccines should be administered in India.

- The **United States** and the **United Kingdom** have approved booster doses for all adults, six months after the completion of their second dose.

#### 2. No International flights from India

The Government cited concerns over the **Omicron variant** of the coronavirus and **indefinitely postponed the full resumption** of scheduled **international flights from December 15**.

#### 3. First Case of Omicron in India

India has confirmed two cases of the Omicron variant of coronavirus in **Karnataka**.

- The announcement was made following confirmation from the **Indian SARSCoV2 Genomics Consortium (INSACOG)** that monitors the genomic variations of the pandemic.

#### 4. The Indian SARSCoV2 Genomics Consortium (INSACOG) advises booster dose

*Top Indian genome scientists have suggested booster doses of Covid vaccines for those above 40 years of age with preference to high risk and high exposure population.*

- The recommendations to administer booster dose to those above 40 years of age was made in INSACOG’s weekly bulletin on November 29, before it confirmed the first cases of the new variant in India.

#### 5. ZyCoV-D to be launched in seven States

*The first COVID vaccine **ZyCoV-D** is cleared by India’s drug regulator for those aged 12 and above.*

- This is the first COVID-19 vaccine candidate developed on a plasmid DNA platform to be commercially introduced anywhere in the world.

The Omicron variant of the virus that causes COVID-19 likely acquired at least one of its mutations by picking up a snippet of genetic material from another virus - possibly one that causes the common cold - present in the same infected cells, according to researchers. This genetic sequence does not appear in any earlier versions of the coronavirus, called SARS-CoV-2, but is ubiquitous in many other viruses including those that cause the common cold, and also in the human genome, researchers said.

## **6. Cyclone Jawad to hit Eastern coastal area of India**

The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a warning that the deep depression in the Bay of Bengal will develop into a cyclonic storm "Jawad" and it will affect north Andhra Pradesh and south Odisha and north-northeast of West Bengal.

**The cyclone has been named "Jawad" by Saudi Arabia.**

## **7. Facial recognition at airports from 2022**

- AAI is working on a project of FRT-based Biometric Boarding System as part of the first phase of **DigiYatra** Implementation at four airports, including **Varanasi, Pune, Kolkata, and Vijayawada.**