



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – FEBRUARY 22, 2025

STATE

- **Nayanamritham 2.0**
- ✓ Kerala launched the world's first AI-driven chronic eye disease screening program 'Nayanamritham 2.0'.



- ✓ This initiative uses artificial intelligence to enhance early detection and streamline eye disease screening.
- ✓ It will make quality eye care more accessible and efficient across the state.
- ✓ Nayanamritham 2.0 has expanded its scope to include screening for two other major chronic eye diseases such as glaucoma and age-related macular degeneration (AMD).
- ✓ This initiative will also empower healthcare providers to deliver better patient care.

PERSONALITIES

➤ **Purnima Devi Barman**

- ✓ Indian biologist and wildlife conservationist Purnima Devi Barman has been named “Woman of the Year” by Time magazine.



- ✓ Purnima Devi Barman is the only Indian woman on this year's list.
- ✓ Purnima Devi is famous for her unwavering efforts in protecting the endangered greater adjutant stork, locally known as Hargila.
- ✓ It is one of the world's rarest storks.
- ✓ Due to Dr. Barman's dedication, their population in Assam has increased to 1,800.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

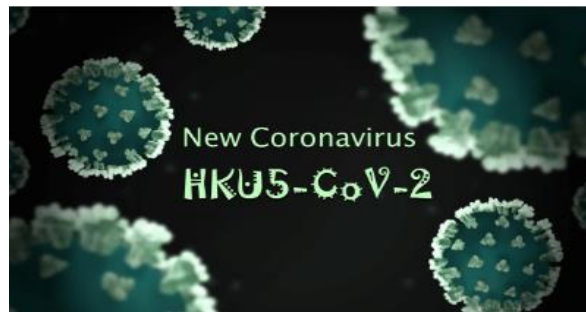
➤ **ISRO Develops World's Largest Vertical Propellant Mixer**

- ✓ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has achieved a significant milestone by developing a 10-tonne vertical planetary mixer, the largest of its kind globally, for solid propellant production.



- ✓ This indigenous mixer, created in collaboration with the Central Manufacturing Technology Institute (CMTI) in Bengaluru, is set to enhance the efficiency and safety of solid rocket motor manufacturing, marking a substantial advancement in India's space capabilities.

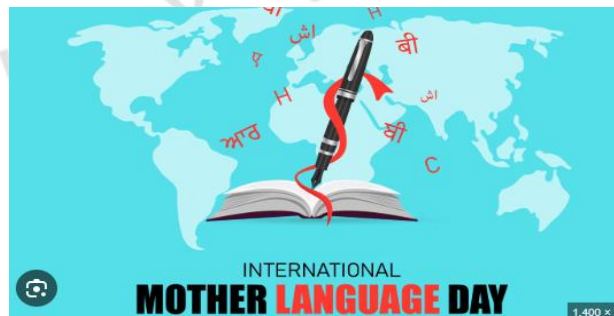
- **New Bat Coronavirus HKU5-CoV-2 Discovered in China**
- ✓ Chinese researchers have identified a new bat coronavirus, named HKU5-CoV-2, which has the ability to infect human cells.



- ✓ The virus uses the ACE2 receptor, the same pathway that SARS-CoV-2, the virus responsible for COVID-19, uses to enter human cells.
- ✓ The discovery has raised concerns about potential zoonotic transmission, emphasizing the need for continuous surveillance of bat-borne viruses.

IMPORTANT DAYS

- **International Mother Language Day: February 21**
- ✓ International Mother Language Day is observed to promote awareness about linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism.



- ✓ Currently, there are about 8,324 languages globally, but many are facing the threat of extinction as a result of globalisation and evolving societal dynamics.
- ✓ 21 February was declared International Mother Language Day by UNESCO on 17 November 1999.

