

Tokhü Emong and Amur falcon

- Nagaland is undertaking the first avian documentation exercise going beyond the Amur falcons, the migratory raptor that put the State on the world birding map.
- The four-day Tokhü Emong Bird Count (TEBC) from Friday has been timed with the post-harvest Tokhü Emong festival of the Lothas, the Naga community that dominates Wokha district.

Tokhü Emong

- Tokhü Emong is a village festival celebrated by the Lotha Nagas in Nagaland, India. The nine-day fall festival celebrates the end of the harvest season.
- Tokhü means feast (eating food and drinking). Emong means the Halt on the appointed time
- Tokhü Emong is celebrated in the first week of November every year and it lasts for nine days.
- This festival is associated with the harvesting of crops. It is also accompanied by folk dances and singing of folk songs.
- During Tokhü Emong, the adherents praise the gods for their blessings.
- Tokhü Emong is also a celebration of brotherhood, forgiveness, and oneness.

- It is celebrated through sharing of food, gifts, folklore narration and a community feast.

The Amur falcon

- The Amur falcon (*Falco amurensis*) is a small raptor of the falcon family.
- It breeds in south-eastern Siberia and Northern China before migrating in large flocks across India and over the Arabian Sea to winter in Southern and East Africa.



- Breeds in South-east Russia and northern China.
- Migrates west through India and across the Arabian Sea to Southern Africa
- Feeds on dragonflies that follow a similar migration path over Arabian Sea.
- 22,000 km journey (longest sea crossing of any raptor)
- Flyway: East-Asian Australasian and African Eurasian.

- The Amur Falcon exemplifies the threat of illegal trapping and killing during migration, which harms countless bird species each year.

Ministry of education report

- The number of children entering pre-primary classes in 2021-2022 saw a further decline, resulting in 30% fewer students in this school section as compared to pre-Covid as younger students with less access to remote learning continue to bear the biggest brunt of learning loss during the pandemic, according to a report released by the Ministry of Education.
- A total of 94.95 lakh students entered pre-primary classes in 2021-2022, registering a drop of 10% as compared to the previous year when 1.06 crore children enrolled in these classes.
- Enrolment in primary classes, which include classes 1 to 5, also saw a drop for the first time, falling from 12.20 lakh in 2020-2021 to 12.18 lakh in 2021-2022.
- However, the total number of students from primary to higher secondary increased by 19 lakh to 25.57 crore.
- Also for the first time since the pandemic, the report records a

decline in number of schools due to closures as well as a lack of teachers.

- There were 20,000 fewer schools in 2021-2022 as the total number of schools dropped from 15.09 lakh to 14.89 lakh.
- There were also 1.89 lakh or 1.98% fewer teachers as their number reduced from 96.96 lakh in 2020-2021 to 95.07 lakh in 2021-2022.
- Computer facilities were available in 44.75% of schools, while Internet access was available only in 33.9% of schools.

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The Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)

XCheck" system

XCheck" system

- Meta XCheck" system, an internal program that has exempted high-profile users from some or all of its rules.
- Under the program, some users are "whitelisted", or not subject to enforcement action, while others are allowed to post material that violates Facebook rules pending content reviews that often do not take place.

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RISAT and reconnaissance satellite

- ISRO's RISAT-2 satellite, launched in 2009, has made an uncontrolled re-entry into the Earth's atmosphere
- RISAT
- RISAT-2, or Radar Imaging Satellite-2 was an Indian radar imaging reconnaissance satellite that was part of India's RISAT programme.
- It was built by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and successfully launched aboard a PSLV-CA launch vehicle on 20 April 2009 from the Second Launch Pad at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre.
- The principal sensor of RISAT-2 was an X-band synthetic-aperture radar (SAR) from Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI).
- It is designed to monitor India's borders and as part of anti-infiltration and anti-terrorist operations.

Reconnaissance satellite

- A reconnaissance satellite or intelligence satellite (commonly, although unofficially, referred to as a spy satellite) is an Earth observation satellite or communications satellite deployed for military or intelligence applications.
- The first generation type took photographs, then ejected canisters

of photographic film which would descend back down into Earth's atmosphere.

- There are several major types of reconnaissance satellite.

Missile early warning

- Provides warning of an attack by detecting ballistic missile launches. Earliest known are Missile Defense Alarm System.
- Nuclear explosion detection
- Detects nuclear detonation from space. Vela is the earliest known.
- Electronic reconnaissance
- Signals intelligence, intercepts stray radio waves. SOLRAD is the earliest known.
- Optical imaging surveillance
- Earth imaging satellites. Satellite images can be a survey or close-look telephoto. Corona is the earliest known.
- Radar imaging surveillance
- Most space-based radars use synthetic-aperture radar. Can be used at night or through cloud cover

(Cor-AuNPs)

- M medicines may soon have traces of ultramicroscopic gold powered by a super mushroom for greater efficacy.
- Cordy gold nanoparticles (Cor-AuNPs), the outcome of a

collaborative experiment by scientists from four Indian institutions, has earned an international patent from Germany.

- These nanoparticles, derived from the synthesis of the extracts of *Cordyceps militaris* and gold salts, could make drug delivery in the human body faster and surer.
- *Cordyceps militaris* is a high-value parasitic fungus, lab-grown at the Department of Biotechnology's Technology Incubation Centre (TIC) in Bodoland University, one of the collaborators of the patented work. Gold salts are ionic chemical compounds of gold generally used in medicine.
- Penetration in the cells is more when the drug particles are smaller.
- *Cordyceps militaris*, called super mushroom for its tremendous medicinal properties, adds bioactive components to the synthesis of gold nanoparticles for better penetration,
- "Biosynthesised nanogold particles indicate a new application of nanoparticles in the development of therapeutic drugs that can be delivered as ointments, tablets, capsules, and in other forms.

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