

SHORTNEWS:

1.INFRUCTESCENCE: WORLD'S LONGEST BANANA

NEWS: The World's Longest Banana Infructescence was discovered in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

- Species: *Musa indandamanensis*, a wild banana endemic to Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
- Record: The infructescence (fruit bunch) of 4.2 metres was recorded in an endemic species of wild banana, the *Musa indandamanensis*, the longest recorded globally.
- Discovery Site: Campbell Bay, Nicobar Islands.
- Conservation: Listed as Critically Endangered; saplings preserved in botanic gardens.
- Significance: Valuable for developing disease-resistant, high-yield banana varieties.

2.KOSMOS 482

NEWS: Kosmos 482 made an uncontrolled entry into Earth's atmosphere and splashed into the Indian Ocean.

About Kosmos 482

- Kosmos 482 was a Soviet spacecraft launched on March 31, 1972, intended to reach Venus as part of the Venera program.
- It failed to escape Earth's orbit due to a rocket malfunction, becoming stranded in low Earth orbit for over 53 years.

3.GROUP OF FRIENDS OF TRADITIONAL MEDICINE (GFTM)

NEWS: The 6th meeting of the Group of Friends of Traditional Medicine (GFTM) was held at the Permanent Mission of India (PMI) to the UN in Geneva.

About GFTM

- GFTM is an informal group started by India in May 2023.
- It helps promote the use of traditional medicine in healthcare systems around the world.

- The platform encourages collaboration, knowledge exchange, and research partnerships.

What is Traditional Medicine?

- It is the traditional knowledge, skills, and practices used for the healthcare sector.
- The knowledge was passed down through generations.
- Known as: indigenous medicine.
- Natural remedies: Uses herbs, plants, and minerals for treatment.
- Examples: Ayurveda, acupuncture, herbal medicine, Unani Medicine, and spiritual healing.