

homesteads | rare palm endemic to the South Andaman Island is finding a second home at Thiruvananthapuram-based Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute.

**Mount Harriet National Park** → located in the south of the Andaman and Nicobar islands | covered with evergreen forest pockets | andaman wild pigs, saltwater crocodiles, butterflies and palm trees.

13. **Garbage-free star rating for the cities** | by Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry | To institutionalize a mechanism for cities to achieve Garbage Free status and to motivate cities to achieve higher degrees of cleanliness | components such as cleanliness of drains & water bodies, plastic waste management, managing construction & demolition waste which are critical drivers for achieving garbage free cities | intends to make Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U) as a successful project.

5 Star Cities		
ULB Name	State	Final Rating
Ambikapur	Chhattisgarh	5 Star
Rajkot	Gujarat	5 Star
Surat	Gujarat	5 Star
Mysore	Karnataka	5 Star
Indore	Madhya Pradesh	5 Star
Navi Mumbai	Maharashtra	5 Star

14. **Dibru-Saikhowa National Park** | is a National Park as well as a Biosphere Reserve | situated in the south bank of the river Brahmaputra in the extreme east of Assam state in India | bounded by the Brahmaputra and Lohit Rivers in the north and Dibru river in the south | Flora - Moist mixed semi-evergreen forests, moist mixed deciduous forests, canebrakes and grassland | 36 species of mammals have so far been recorded – Tiger, Elephant, Leopard, Jungle Cat, Bears, Small Indian Civet, Squirrels, Gangetic Dolphin, Slow Loris, Assamese Macaque, Rhesus Macaque, Capped Langur, Hoolock Gibbon, Wild Pigs, Sambar, Barking Deer, Water Buffalo, Feral Horses etc.

15. **International Day for Biological Diversity** | Theme - Our solutions are in nature | 22nd May every year | created by UN General Assembly in 1993 to mark the adoption of the text of the Convention of Biological Diversity.

**Convention on Biological Diversity** → Signed at the 1992 Rio Earth Summit | 196 parties | legally binding treaty | Objective - conservation of biological diversity, sustainable use of the components of biological diversity.

**Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety** → ensure the safe handling, transport and use of living modified organisms (LMOs) resulting from modern biotechnology that may have adverse effects on biological diversity.

**Nagoya Protocol** → aims at sharing the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources in a fair and equitable way.

#### 16. NEW PLANT SPECIES FOUND IN WESTERN GHATS

**Eugenia sphaerocarpa** → belongs to the Myrtaceae or Rose apple family | in the Kakkayam area of the Malabar wildlife sanctuary in Kerala above 800m.

**Goniothalamus sericeus** → belongs to the Annonaceae family of custard apple | found in the Kanyakumari wildlife sanctuary in Tamil Nadu at an altitude of 1400m.