

Forces, under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan'.  
■ **Access of TKDL Widened to Encourage R&D, Innovations Based on Indian Traditional Knowledge**

The Union Cabinet has approved widening the access of TKDL (Traditional Knowledge Digital Library) database to users, besides patent offices. By doing so, the government hopes to encourage research & development, and innovation based on India's valued heritage across diverse fields. The TKDL can cater to a vast user base that would include businesses/companies (herbal healthcare (AYUSH, pharmaceuticals, phytopharmaceuticals, and nutraceuticals), personal care, and other FMCG), research institutions; public and private educational institutions, students; ISM (Indian System of Medicines) practitioners, knowledge holders, patentees and their legal representatives, and government, among several others. The access to the TKDL database would be through a paid subscription model with a phase-wise opening to national and international users.



■ **India Gets 75 Ramsar Sites in 75 Years of Independence**

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11 more Indian wetlands have made it to the Ramsar list taking the total number of Ramsar sites in the country to 75. The total area covered by Ramsar sites now stands at 13,26,677 hectares. The 11 new sites include four in Tamil Nadu, three in Odisha, two in Jammu & Kashmir and one each in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. Designation of these sites would help in conservation and management of wetlands and wise use of their resources.