



Rapid Fire Current Affairs

Bird-Like Dinosaur: *Fujianvenator prodigiosus*



- The recent discovery of fossils of a Jurassic Period **bird-like dinosaur called *Fujianvenator prodigiosus*** in southeastern China has captivated scientists and shed light on a critical evolutionary stage in the origin of birds.
- The dinosaur **had elongated legs and arms built much like wings**, suggesting it either was a **fast runner or lived a lifestyle like a modern wading bird**.
- It is classified as a member of a grouping called **avialans that includes all birds and their closest non-avian dinosaur relatives**.
- Its forelimb is generally built like a bird's wing, but with three claws on the fingers, which are absent from modern birds.

India's first ever UPI-ATM

- India's first [UPI-ATM](#) was launched on 5th September 2023, by Hitachi Payment Services.
- The ATM is a [White Label ATM \(WLA\)](#) developed in collaboration with the [National Payments Corporation of India \(NPCI\)](#).

- The ATM was designed to enable "**seamless cash withdrawals**" and eliminate the need to **carry physical ATM cards**. It also aims to drive financial inclusion by making banking services more accessible in areas with limited traditional banking infrastructure.

Read more: [Unified Payments Interface \(UPI\)](#)

UIDAI Drives Aadhaar Innovation at Global Fintech Festival

At the **Global Fintech Festival in Mumbai**, **Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)** unveiled its enhanced **Face Authentication feature**, utilizing in-house **Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning technologies**, embodying the theme "**reimagining Aadhaar authentication.**"

- Under the **Volunteer Guideline 2022 initiative**, UIDAI has fostered collaborations with industry and fintech partners to **accelerate technology adoption and develop innovative solutions for residents**.
- Collaborative efforts with **Airtel Payments Bank** have enhanced face authentication, optimizing low-light conditions and bolstering fraud prevention measures.

Read more: [Unique Identification Authority of India](#), [Artificial Intelligence](#).

EMRS Principal Honored with National Teachers' Award 2023

Union Minister for Tribal Affairs felicitated **Dr. Yashpal Singh**, Principal of [Eklavya Model Residential School \(EMRS\) Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh](#), who received the prestigious [National Teachers' Award for 2023](#).

- The EMRS scheme, initiated in **1997-98**, aimed to establish residential schools that **offer free education to Scheduled Tribe children from class VI to XII in remote corners**.
 - The scheme is being implemented by the **Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India**.

Read more: [Eklavya Model Residential School](#), [National Teachers' Award for 2023](#).

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