NeophyteID, Invasive species detection App

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance*

Why in news?

An invasive species detection app, NeophyteID, will be launched at Kerala recently.

- It is an AI-powered mobile application designed to ***help users identify invasive plant species across Kerala.***
- **Developed by -** Researchers at the Malabar Botanical Garden and Institute for Plant Sciences (MBGIPS).
- **Powered by -** The YOLOv11 machine learning model.
- **Key features** - The app leverages image recognition and geospatial tracking to accurately detect and map invasive (neophyte) plant species directly from your camera or gallery.
- Each identification contributes to a real-time distribution map, supporting research, conservation, and community-based biodiversity management.
- It is accessible in English and Malayalam.
- It is aimed as a citizen-friendly app which enables local communities, students and ecologists to collectively monitor, report and manage the spread of invasive plants threatening native flora and ecosystems.

Reference

Times of India | NeophyteID