



JULY MONTHLY CURRENT AFFAIRS-2023

www.shikshabyswathikaiasacademy.com

Phone : 8608830102 | 9047051911

4. The Governor will be approaching the Attorney General for his opinion on this issue.



Country's top electronics exporter

1. **Tamil Nadu** – emerged as the country's top electronics exporter in the financial year ended March 2023.
2. With this, **Tamil Nadu has surpassed industrial majors** like Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra to emerge on top for the first time after the shutting down of Nokia in 2014.
3. **Skilled manpower, port connectivity and good infrastructure** are the major advantage factors of Tamil Nadu.

	TN	UP	Maharashtra	Karnataka
2022-23	5.3	4.9	2.6	4.5
2021-22	1.8	3.8	2.1	3.9
2020-21	1.6	2.8	1.6	2.3

Source: National Import-Export Records

State-level commission for sanitary workers

1. **National Commission for Safai Karamcharis Chairperson M. Venkatesan** urged the TN government to **establish a State-level commission for sanitary workers** in order to redress their grievances.
2. State-level commissions were established in **11 States in the country**.
3. In India, Tamil Nadu recorded the **second highest number of deaths of sanitary workers** while cleaning septic tanks.

Neolithic age celt in Dharmapuri

1. Archaeological excavations in **Poothinatham, Dharmapuri district** have yielded a celt belonging to the Neolithic age.
2. This is the **second celt discovered** at the site.
3. It could have been used for **cutting trees or hunting**.
4. The celt, made of **Doloraid**, was also used as a **plough and axe**.
5. A celt is a long, thin, **prehistoric stone or bronze tool**.



GST revenue collection

1. The Tamil Nadu and Puducherry Goods and Services Tax (GST) zone has contributed **8.12% of all of India's GST revenue**.
2. It also provided **4.72% of the all-India Central Excise Revenue** in 2022-23.
3. The **year-on-year national growth** in GST revenue collection is **21% during 2022- 23** compared to the previous year.
4. Tamil Nadu stands **third in the large State category** after Karnataka and Maharashtra.

First 1000 – Best Healthy Days

1. Tamil Nadu Health Ministry launched the **'First 1000 – Best Healthy Days' programme**.

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

2. It aims at monitoring the **nutrition of pregnant women and newborns for the first 1,000 days.**
3. It was inaugurated at the **Primary Health Centre in Thimiri block near Arcot.**
4. This scheme is being implemented in all the **23 Community Health Centers and 116 Primary Health Centres of 14 districts** based on the poor maternal and child health indicators in the State.



Dormitories for drivers

1. The Tamil Nadu government - has made it **mandatory for hotels and lodging houses to provide dormitories for drivers** who accompany the guests.
2. The **State Housing and Urban Development Department** has issued an order based on a recommendation made by **former Chief Secretary V Irai Anbu.**
3. As per the order, the accommodation is required to be provided either within the premises or **within 250 metres** from the hotel.
4. Accordingly, at least **one bed** should be provided for each car parking space in hotels, along with one separate toilet and bathroom exclusively for **every eight beds attached** to the dormitory.

Second-best groundwater availability in the country

1. In Union Jal Shakti Ministry's annual ranking, Namakkal achieved **second place in the conservation and management category** for the year 2022.
2. It successfully addressed its **water scarcity challenges** and became the **second best district** in India in terms of groundwater availability.



24 reserve forests in 2 years

1. Tamil Nadu has added 24 reserve forests covering an area of **3585.3 hectares in the last two years.**
2. Under the **Green Tamil Nadu Mission**, the state **aims to increase tree and forest cover from 23.69 percent to 33 percent.**



3. The State has notified reserve forests in **eight districts** Dindigul, Dharmapuri, Madurai, Namakkal, Nilgiris, Kallakurichi, Sivagangai, and Theni in **2021-2023**.
4. They are announced under **Section 16 of the Tamil Nadu Forest Act,1882**.

SIPCOT BizBuddy Outreach

1. A new initiative called '**SIPCOT BizBuddy Outreach**' inaugurated recently.
2. It aims at improving **the industrial ecosystem** in Tamil Nadu.
3. The **first ever outreach** event held at the **SIPCOT Oragadam Industrial Park**.
4. The annual outreach events will now be held across **all industrial parks of SIPCOT** starting this year.



Poomalai Vaniga Valagam

1. Chief Minister inaugurated **Poomalai Vaniga Valagam (PVV)** for the **development of women enterprises in 26 districts** under the **Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women (TNCDW)** recently.
2. He also launched **Nano Enterprise Financing Fund (NEFF)** under the **Vazhdhu Kattuvom Project (VKP)**.
3. The VKP is operating in 31 districts, across 120 blocks in 3,994 villages.

4. **Mathi Sirugugal Thozhil Mayyam (one-stop business facilitation centres)** present in each district would provide all relevant business-related support.



Maaligaimedu Excavation

1. The state archaeology department – has **unearthed a stone pillar** which is believed to be the remnant of a Chola-era palace at Maaligaimedu.
2. The **third phase of archaeological excavations** are currently underway at Maaligaimedu near **Gangaikonda Cholapuram in Ariyalur district**.
3. The stone pillar measures **6.4 metres in length** and **72cm in width**.
4. It was discovered at the **Utkottai excavation site**, approximately 1 km from Maaligaimedu.
5. The state archaeology department **uncovered a terracotta seal, a coin mold, and fragments of Chinese pottery** at the Maaligaimedu site.
6. During the ongoing third phase of excavation, over **400 archaeological remnants** have been discovered, including a partial structure of an **ancient brick channel**.

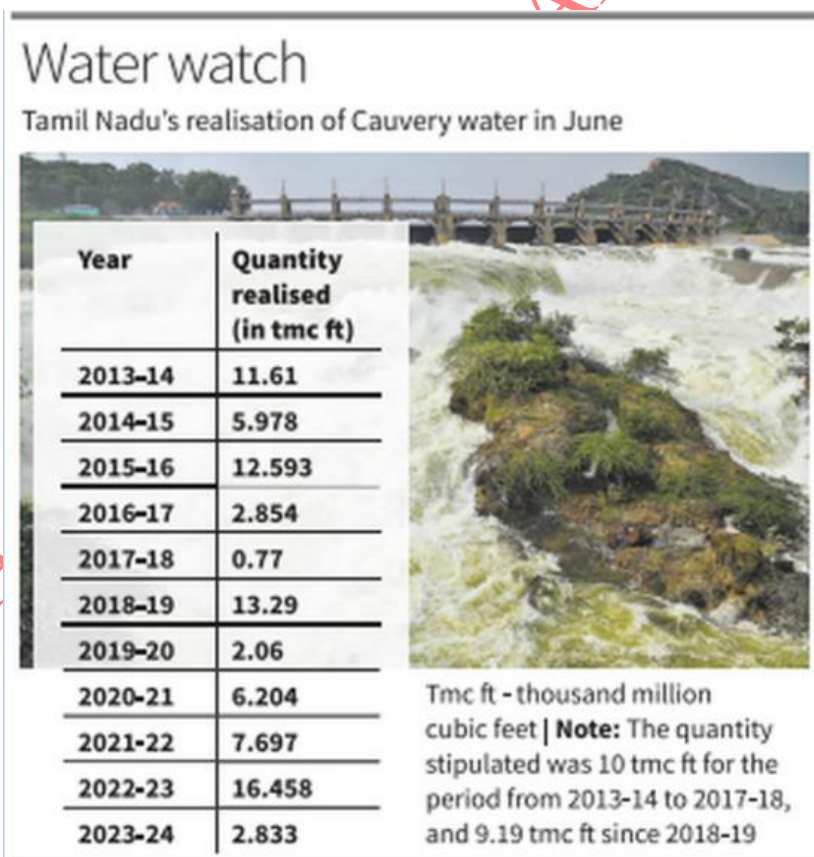


NABL recognition

1. **Anna University** - received the **National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) recognition** for its state-of-the-art medical equipment calibration laboratory.
2. This is the **first time a technical university** has obtained NABL accreditation for a lab.

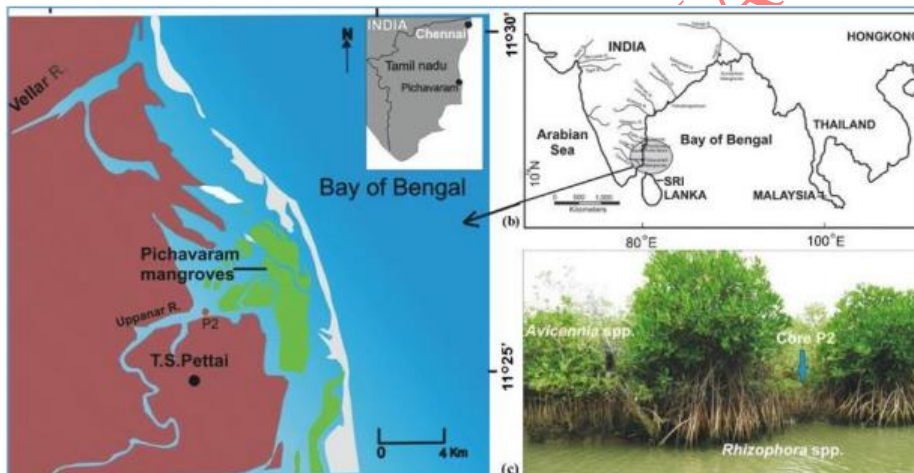
Poor realization of Cauvery water

1. Tamil Nadu is having received less than the **State's share for the month**.
2. The stipulated quantity is **9.19 thousand million cubic feet (tmc ft)** for June.
3. But the State got a mere **2.833 tmc ft, a shortfall of 6.357 tmc ft**.
4. The realisation during June **2017- 0.77 tmc ft** -was also the **lowest for the month in the last 10 years**.



Mangrove cover restoration in Pichavaram

1. The **Tamil Nadu Forest Department** has drawn up a comprehensive plan for the **rehabilitation of coastal habitats** by creating **bio-shields, and restoring degraded mangroves** in Cuddalore district.
2. The Department will **increase mangrove cover** in the region by **100 hectares** for the year 2023-24.
3. The mangrove cover in Tamil Nadu is **44.94 square kilometres (sq km)**, out of which **7.73 sq km fall** in Cuddalore.
4. About **21%** of Pichavaram is occupied by **waterbodies**, **27%** by healthy **mangrove vegetation**, **38%** by **mudflats** with sparsely grown mangroves.



Kalaingar Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam

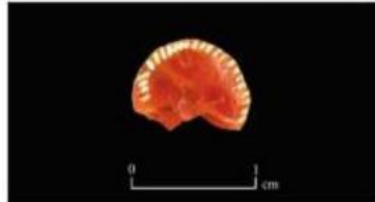
1. Tamil Nadu government - has announced the eligibility criteria for the ambitious '**Kalaingar Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam**' (Kalaingar women's entitlement scheme).
 - **Financial Assistance:** Rs 1,000 assistance to women heads of households every month.
 - **Launched:** September 15 birth anniversary of DMK founder CN Annadurai.
 - **Age Limit:** women heads should be aged above 21 years.
 - **Annual family income :** less than Rs 2.5 lakh, the family not hold more than five acres of wetland or 10 acres of dryland, and have an annual household electricity consumption below 3,600 units.

Green garbage hotspots

1. The Green Tamil Nadu Mission (GTM) under the Department of Environment - has signed a **memorandum of understanding** with Urbaser Sumeet to **green garbage hotspots** in seven GCC zones.
2. The GCC zones covered under the agreement are **Teynampet, Kodambakkam, Adyar, Valasaravakkam, Alandur, Perungudi and Sholinganallur.**
3. As per the agreement, GTM will distribute **native saplings for free to Urbaser Sumeet for plantations.**
4. The goal of the initiative is to **increase the green cover from 23% to 33%** in Tamil Nadu.
5. The conservancy workers will clean the garbage hotspots and community members along with Urbaser Sumeet will **plant saplings at a 2.5-metre gap.**
6. Native species like **pungan, poovarasu, neer mathi and naval** were suggested for this initiative.

Porpanaikottai Excavation

1. The researchers – have discovered several ancient and rare antiques in the excavations being done at **Porpanaikottai in Pudukottai district.**
2. Recently, archaeologists discovered a **golden nose stud or earring weighing 0. 2g**, a **bone point** and a **fragment of carnelian bead** at a depth of **175cm** from the surface level.
3. **Carnelian beads** were mostly found in **northern states**, while similar beads were discovered in **Kodumanal and Keeladi excavation** sites too.
4. More **bone point tools** if discovered at Porpanaikottai would indicate that it was the **site of a weaving industry.**



2. Recent dating has established that objects excavated from **Sivakalai in Tuticorin district are from 2,500 BCE to 3,000 BCE.**
3. Indus Valley civilisation lasted from **3,300 BCE to 1,300 BCE.**
4. A previous dating of samples from **Mayiladumparai in Krishnagiri district** showed them to be from **2,172 BCE.**



Arikandam

1. Researchers – have identified a **1,000-year-old ‘Arikandam’ near Cholapuram in Sivaganga district.**
2. ‘Arikandam’ refers to a **statue installed in the memory of a man who took his own life through decapitation to redeem a vow made to goddess Kali.**



3. ‘Arikandam’ was the **act of a man making a vow to the deity** to take his own life by chopping off his own head, if he won a war or overcame a disease.

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

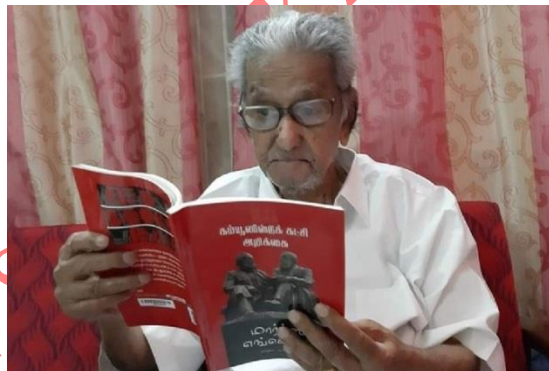
Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

3. It will be based at **Salem Airport**.
4. This will be the **first flying training organisation (FTO) in Tamil Nadu**.



Honorary Doctorate

1. **Freedom fighter Sankaraiah** to get honorary doctorate by Madurai Kamaraj University, Tamil Nadu.



GI Tag for Authoor betel leaves



SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

1. **Geographical Indications Registry** issued the GI Tag for Authoor betel leaves to **Thoothukudi district administration**.
2. These betel leaves are nurtured by **Thamirabarani river water**.
3. The leaves also find a mention in the **13th-Century book 'The Travels of Marco polo**.
4. The district is also waiting for the **GI tag recognition of Kayathar lemon, Srivaikuntam banana, and Udangudi Karupatti**.

Monthly pay for urban local body representatives

1. In a first, the Tamil Nadu government has decided to **pay a monthly honorarium** for all elected representatives of urban local bodies, including mayors.

Corporation Members	Salary
Mayors	Rs. 30,000
Deputy Mayors	Rs. 15,000
Corporation Councillors	Rs. 10,000

Municipal Members	Salary
Chairpersons	Rs. 15,000
Vice-Chairpersons	Rs. 10,000
Councillors	Rs. 5,000

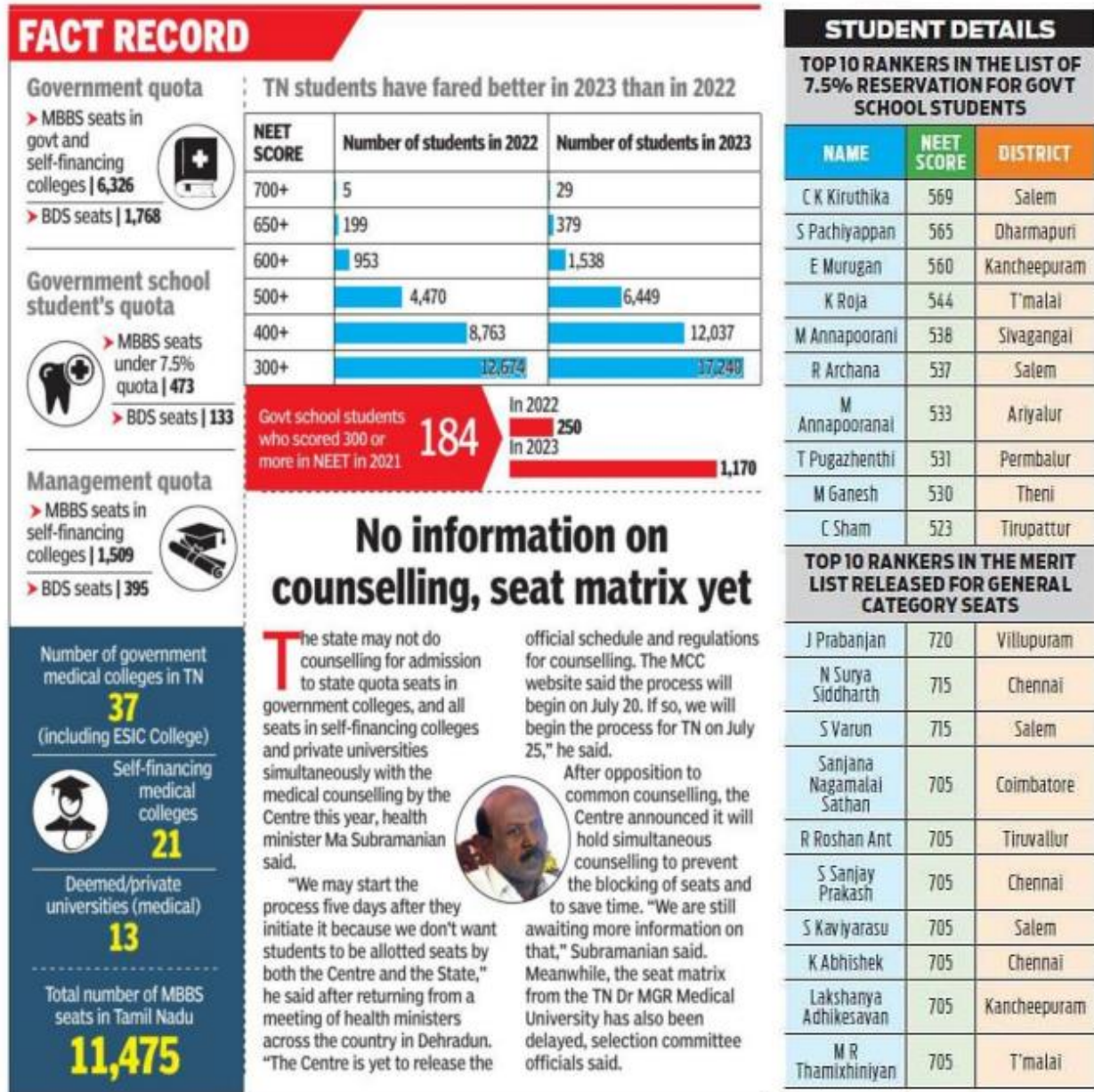
Panchayat Members	Salary
Chairpersons	Rs. 10,000
Vice- Chairpersons	Rs. 5,000

Kalaingar Centenary Library

1. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister inaugurated the state-of-the-art **Kalaingar Centenary Library** in **Madurai**.

Government Kalaignar Centenary Super Specialty Hospital

1. Health minister Ma Subramanian – released the rank list for MBBS and BDS admissions for 2023-24 at the Government Kalaignar Centenary Super Specialty Hospital at King Institute, Chennai.



Tamil translations of Homer's Greek epics

1. The Tamil translations of **The Iliad** and **The Odyssey**, the two Greek epics of Homer, were released recently.

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

1. **Beneficiaries of social security pension schemes** implemented by the various departments of the Tamil Nadu government will get **₹1,200 instead of ₹1,000 per month.**
2. Beneficiaries including old-age people, widows, refugees, members of various unorganised workers welfare board, women who remain unmarried even after the **age of 50.**
3. The monthly pension to the **differently-abled** had **already been increased** to **₹1,500 from ₹1,000.**

Manarkeni app

1. **Tamil Nadu School Education Department** has launched an app called 'Manarkeni'.
2. This app will have **videos in English and Tamil based** on concepts from the **Tamil Nadu State Board syllabus** across all classes.
3. This have been created by the **State Council for Educational Research and Training (SCERT).**
4. This initiative aims to encourage students to **understand concepts better and promote critical thinking.**



Agriculture Sangamam

1. Tamil Nadu's first '**State Agricultural Fair (Agriculture Sangamam)**' was held in **Trichy.**

Conservation of native plants

1. The **United Kingdom government** signed a memorandum of understanding with Tamil Nadu to set up projects to conserve native plants.

Tide Turners Plastic Challenge

1. The state government - launched 'Tide Turners Plastic Challenge', aimed at **reducing plastic** use among **school and college students**.
2. The government has collaborated with the **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)** for the initiative.
3. The programme will be implemented in **three levels – entry, leadership and championship** - through eco clubs in private and government schools.
 - At the **first 'entry' level**, school teachers will be explained issues of pollution of waterbodies and marine ecosystem due to plastic invasion.
 - At the **second level, called leadership level**, schools should reach out to communities and engage them in activities to reduce plastic use.
 - At the **third 'championship' level**, schools should demonstrate a change at the ground level that took place due to the first two levels.
4. The initial target for the state is to rope in **one lakh children** for the programme.
5. **People in 12-35 age group** can participate in the programme.



Voluntary industrial green rating mechanism

1. The **Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board** and the **environment department** - have launched a 'voluntary industrial green rating mechanism' for industries across the state.
2. The main **objective** of the initiative is **to accelerate green growth and to help the state move** towards **economically viable** and **socially responsible businesses**.
3. It is also aimed at getting incentives for **low carbon products** being exported by the industries.
4. Energy security, conservation of water resources, clean air, greenhouse gas monitoring, sustainable waste management, and green initiatives by the industries are the various criteria employed for giving the green rating performance.

Appointment of temple priests

1. The Madras High Court refused to stay the **operation of a single judge's June 26 verdict**.
2. Also, any person properly trained **to perform pujas and other rituals** as per the Agama Sastra could be appointed to the post.



3. These directions contrary to the law laid down by the **Supreme Court in Seshammal's case (1972)**.
4. Karana Agama, as well as the other **27 Saiva Agamas** clearly prescribe that only persons belonging to the denomination of **Adi Saivars/Sivachariyars/Gurukkals** are eligible to become Archakas in temples governed by the **28 Saiva Agamas**.
5. This custom was upheld by the Supreme Court in **Seshammal's case**.

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

Thozhi Hostels

1. **Tamil Nadu's Department of Social Welfare and Women Empowerment** - has started eleven hostels for working women in various districts.
2. The hostels named '**Thozhi**' will be operated under the aegis of the **Tamil Nadu Working Women's Hostel Corporation Ltd**
3. According to the CM, 'thozhi' hostels will find a permanent place in the annals of Tamil Nadu history like '**Dravidar Illam,**' the pre – independence hostel run by **Dravidian ideologue C Natesa Mudaliar for non-Brahmin students.**
4. The hostels are located in **Chennai, Chengalpattu, Salem, Trichy, Tirunelveli, Vellore, Villupuram, Perambalur and Thanjavur.**
5. These hostels are designed to provide **safe and affordable** accommodations to women.
6. According to government, close to **700 working women** will be accommodated in these hostels.



STATES

National Sickle Cell Anemia Eradication Mission 2047

1. Prime Minister launched the National Sickle Cell Anemia Eradication Mission 2047 in the **Lalpur village, located in Shahdol district of Madhya Pradesh.**
2. During his address, the Prime Minister highlighted that **half of the world's sickle cell anemia cases occur in India.**
3. As per a National Health Mission report, **Madhya Pradesh** has the highest burden of sickle cell anaemia.

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

4. The mission was announced in the **Union Budget 2023** by **Finance Minister**.

Hemis festival

1. The legendary two days Hemis festival was celebrated in **Leh in Ladakh**.
2. It's also popularly known as **Hemis Tses-Chu**.
3. It is celebrated to commemorate the **birth anniversary of Guru Padma sambhava**.
4. Guru Padma sambhava was introduced and flourished **Vajrayana Buddhist tradition in the entire Himalayas**.
5. **Guru Padma sambhava** is popularly known as the **second Buddha**.



Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra

1. Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leader Ajit Pawar, who took oath as the Deputy chief minister of Maharashtra after joining the **Eknath Shinde-led government**.



SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

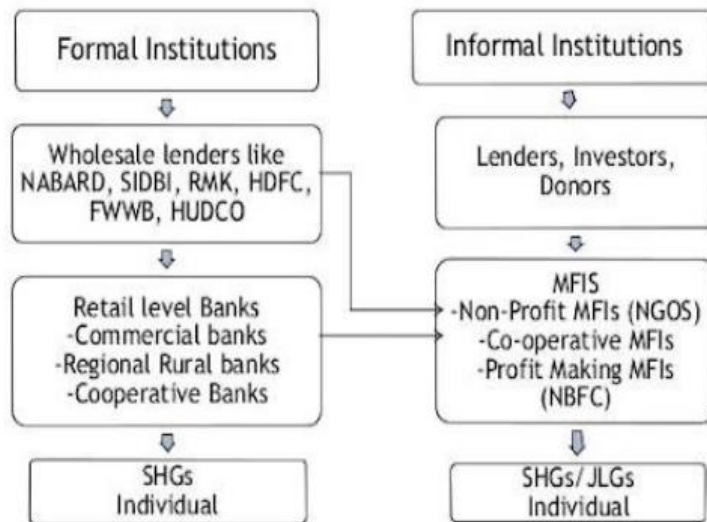
Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

2. As of March 2023, Bihar's microfinance (MFI) borrowings were amounted to **Rs 48,900 crore**.
3. Meanwhile, Tamil Nadu's MFI borrowings stood at **Rs 46,300 crore**.

MICROFINANCE INSTITUTIONS IN INDIA

Microfinance institutions (MFIs) are the organisations or associations of individuals that provide financial services to the poor.

Institutional Arrangement for Microfinance Disbursement in India



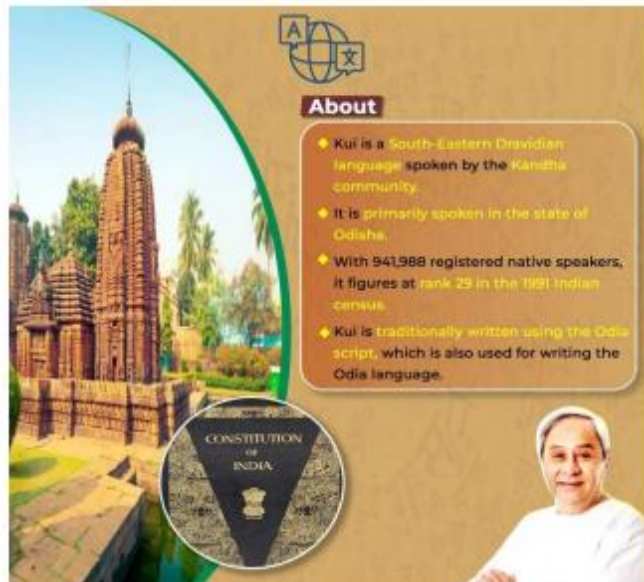
Mo Jungle Jami Yojana

1. The **Odisha government** - recently announced the launch of a new scheme named 'Mo Jungle Jami Yojana'.
2. The scheme aims to **ensure livelihood and food security for the Scheduled Tribe** and forest dwelling population in the state.
3. Under the scheme, all unsurveyed, forest and zero area villages will be converted into **revenue villages**.
4. The scheme seeks to effectively implement the provisions of **The Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006 (FRA)** benefitting more than **0.74 million tribal families** and 32,000 villages in the state's 30 district districts.
5. If implemented successfully, Odisha would become the first state to be "FRA compliant" implementing all provisions of the Act.

6. The state is home to **62 different tribes** of which **13 are recognised as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG).**

Kui language

1. The Odisha state cabinet approved a proposal to recommend the inclusion of the Kui language in the **eighth schedule** of the Constitution of India.
2. Inclusion of Kui in the eighth schedule will help in the **preservation, promotion and propagation of the language and culture.**
3. **Kui (Kandh, Khondi, Khond, Khondo)** is a **South-Eastern Dravidian language** spoken by the **Kandha community.**
4. It is traditionally written using the **Odia script**, which is also used for writing the **Odia language.**



Revival of Namda Art of Kashmir



SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

1. The Namda craft of Kashmir is being successfully revived under a **Skill India's Pilot Project** as part of the **Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY)**.
2. The first batch of Namda Art products are exported to the **United Kingdom (UK)** initiated recently.

India's first PPP model ATL

1. **OPPO India in collaboration with NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)** has announced the **establishment of an Atal Tinkering Lab (ATL) in Kerala**.
2. This initiative aims to **create an empowered future-ready workforce and nurture entrepreneurship** and technological skills among the youth.

SKOCH Award

1. The **Jammu and Kashmir Rural Livelihoods Mission (JKRLM)** has bagged the SKOCH Award under the theme **"State of Governance India 2047"** in the **gold category**.

Project Gajah Kotha

1. In order to address the **raging human-elephant conflict (HEC)**, Assam has launched an innovative outreach campaign called 'Gajah Kotha' (The Elephant Story).
2. It aims to **foster coexistence between local communities and the magnificent elephants**.
3. It educates them about the **elephants' behaviour, ecology, and cultural connection to the region** and the importance of their conservation.



SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

Satellite Network Portal Site

1. Gujarat signed a MoU with London-Based Company, **OneWeb Company** and the Department of Science and Technology to set up a 'Satellite Network Portal Site'.

India's first Cannabis Medicine Project

1. CSIR-IIIM Jammu is set to lead India's first Cannabis Medicine Project, exploring a diverse array of medicinal uses for cannabis.



2nd-longest serving CM

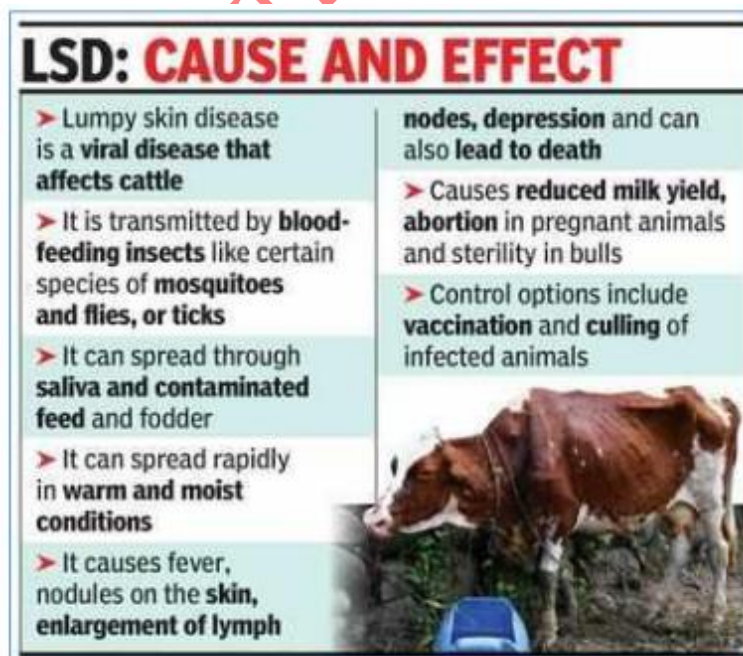
1 ^[3]		Pawan Kumar Chamling (b. 22 Sept 1949)	Sikkim	12 December 1994	27 May 2019	24 years, 166 days	Sikkim Democratic Front
2 ^[4]		Naveen Patnaik (b. 16 Oct 1946)	Odisha	5 March 2000	Incumbent	23 years, 140 days	Biju Janata Dal
3 ^[5]		Jyoti Basu (8 Jul 1914 – 17 Jan 2010)	West Bengal	21 June 1977	6 November 2000	23 years, 138 days	Communist Party of India (Marxist)

1. **Odisha's Naveen Patnaik** became the second longest-serving chief minister in the country.
2. He took charge on March 5, 2000, and holds the post for **23 years and 138 days**.
3. He replaced West Bengal's **Jyoti Basu**.

4. **Jyoti Basu** served as the chief minister of West Bengal from June 21, 1977 to November 5, 2000, which was **23 years and 137 days**.
5. **Former Sikkim Chief Minister Pawan Kumar Chamling** still holds the record of being the **longest-serving Chief Minister** in the country.
6. He was the **Chief Minister of the Himalayan state** from December 12, 1994 till May 27, 2019 **more than 24 years**.

Lumpy skin disease positive state

1. **Nagaland** has been officially declared as a Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) positive state.
2. This is announced in accordance with the “**Prevention and Control of Infectious and Contagious Diseases in Animals Act, 2009**.”
3. This disease is caused by the **Capripox virus** also known as the “**Neethling**.”
4. Lumpy skin disease is a **poxviral disease** with significant morbidity in **cattle**.
5. Although the mortality rate is generally low, economic losses result from loss of condition, decreased milk production, abortions, infertility and damaged hides.



Top rabies deaths

1. Union Health Ministry had launched the National Rabies Control Programme (NRCP) for prevention and control of rabies.
2. Delhi saw the highest number of deaths (48) due to rabies in the country in 2022.

HEALTH MINISTRY'S DATA

STATE/UT	DEATHS
Delhi	48
West Bengal	38
Maharashtra	29
Karnataka	29

First-Ever Floating Store

1. Amazon India has launched its first floating store on Dal Lake in Srinagar, for a seamless delivery experience to its customers in Kashmir.
2. The store is part of company's 'I Have Space' delivery program, which started in 2015.
3. The program helps them deliver packages to customers in faraway places using local shops and partners.



Mangrove Cell

1. **West Bengal government** – recently announced the setting up of a ‘Mangrove Cell’ in the State.
2. The announcement was made on the **occasion of the International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem** marked annually on July 26.
3. The mangrove cell, set up at **Aranya Bhavan in Salt Lake**, will bring government officials, forest personnel, NGOs and academics under a single platform to provide guidance on negotiating the challenges faced in conserving mangroves.
4. West Bengal is home to about **40% of mangrove forests in India**.
5. The **Bengal government’s Mission Plantation**, a low-cost natural solution to mitigation of disaster, is now serving as a case study for the central government which has started the **Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Incomes (MISHTI)**.
6. The **theme** of this year's International Mangrove Day is ‘**Raising awareness about Mangrove**’.
7. The **Tamil Nadu Forest Department** has undertaken **massive plantations of mangroves in the coastal areas** of the state as part of International Mangroves Day.



SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

2. Mission Vatsalya launched in 2021 by the ministry of Women and Child Development which focused on protection and welfare of children.

New Swarnima Scheme

1. The Swarnima Scheme is a term loan scheme introduced by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment to support women entrepreneurs from backward classes.
2. Implemented by the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBCFDC) and carried out by State Channelising Agencies (SCAs).

Objectives of the Scheme:

1. **Provide social and financial security** to women entrepreneurs belonging to backward classes.
2. Enable women to obtain term **loans of up to ₹2,00,000/-** at an **interest rate of 5% per annum.**

ACROSS



"Atmosphere' & Climate Research-Modelling Observing Systems & Services (ACROSS) "

- > Cabinet approves Continuation of the umbrella scheme **"Atmosphere' & Climate Research-Modelling Observing Systems & Services (ACROSS)"**
- > Approval for **next finance cycle of five years i.e. 2021-2026**
- > Would entail an estimated **cost of Rs.2,135 crore**

Benefits:

- > Employment opportunities to many people
- > Will provide improved weather, climate, ocean forecast and services

NATIONAL

National Maritime Heritage Complex

1. The government's initiative to develop the National Maritime Heritage Complex in **Lothal, Gujarat**, is a significant step towards preserving and celebrating India's rich maritime history.

Rannvijay exercise

1. The Indian Air Force recently conducted Exercise Rannvijay at **UB hills, Karnataka**.
2. It aimed at **enhancing the skills of fighter pilots** through day and night operations involving combat aircraft like Su-30s.
3. The exercise took place in the UB Hills and Central Air Command Area at Karnataka from June 16 to June 23.



NANDI Portal

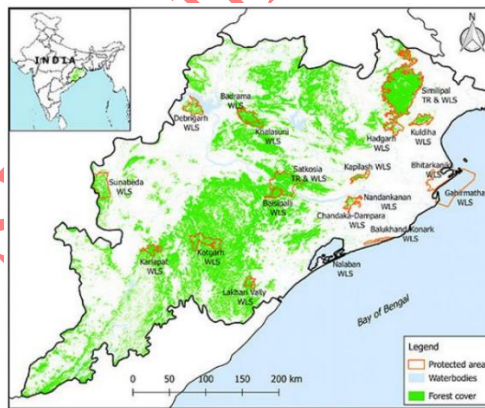
1. The Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying inaugurated **NANDI (NOC Approval for New Drug and Inoculation System)** portal at **Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi**.
2. The portal was developed by the **Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD)**.

3. It aims to facilitate the **process of granting No Objection Certificates (NOC)** for veterinary drugs and vaccines in India.



Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary

1. The Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary in Odisha has recorded a highest prey density and a sighted a tiger during the recent survey.
2. The Sanctuary is located near the reservoir of Hirakud Dam, built on the Mahanadi River, in the Sambalpur district.



New Geographical Indications – Uttar Pradesh

1. The **Geographical Indications Registry in Chennai** has given tags to seven different products from Uttar Pradesh.
2. These products represent the **rich heritage and craftsmanship** of the region.

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

3. They are Amroha Dholak, Mahoba Gaura Patthar Hastashlip, Mainpuri Tarkashi, Sambhal Horn Craft, Baghpat Home Furnishings, Barabanki Handloom Product, Kalpi Handmade Paper.

Aadhaar authentication allowed for registration for births and deaths

1. The Centre has allowed the **Office of Registrar General of India** to use Aadhaar authentication for **birth and death registrations**.
2. The **Ministry of Home Affairs** has issued a notification allowing this.
3. The move aims **to promote ease of living and better** access to services.
4. However, till now Aadhaar is **not mandatory for such registration**, and it has been proposed on **‘voluntary basis’**.



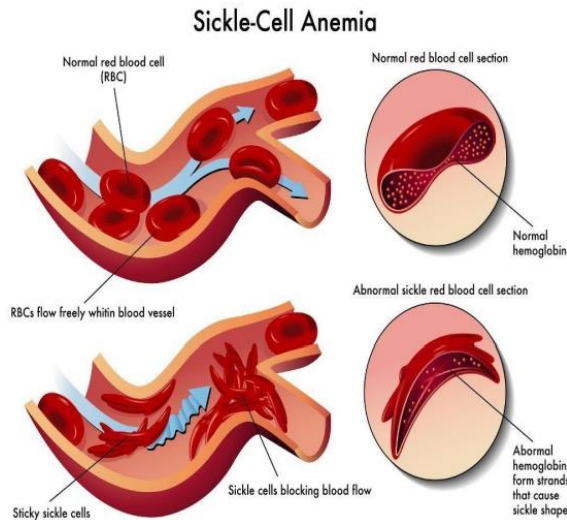
Road Networks in India



1. India now has the **second-largest road network** in the world, after the US.
2. In 2013-14, the total length of National Highways was **91,287 km** has increased to **1,45,240 km** in 2022-23.

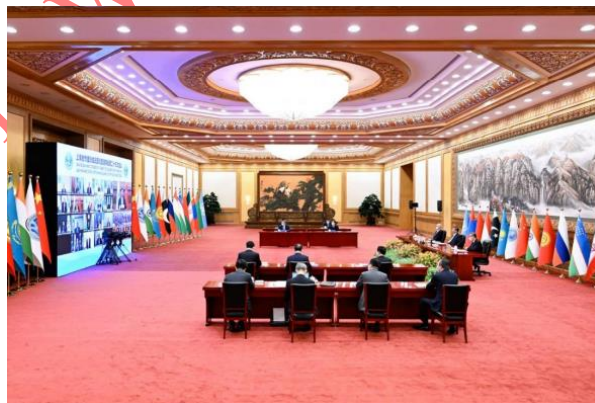
National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission

1. The National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission was **launched** recently as announced in the **union budget 2023**.
2. It aims to address the **pressing health challenges** posed by sickle cell disease, particularly **among the tribal population**.



3. The mission aims to **eliminate sickle cell disease** as a public health problem by **2047**.
4. India has the **second-highest global** prevalence of Sickle Cell Disease.

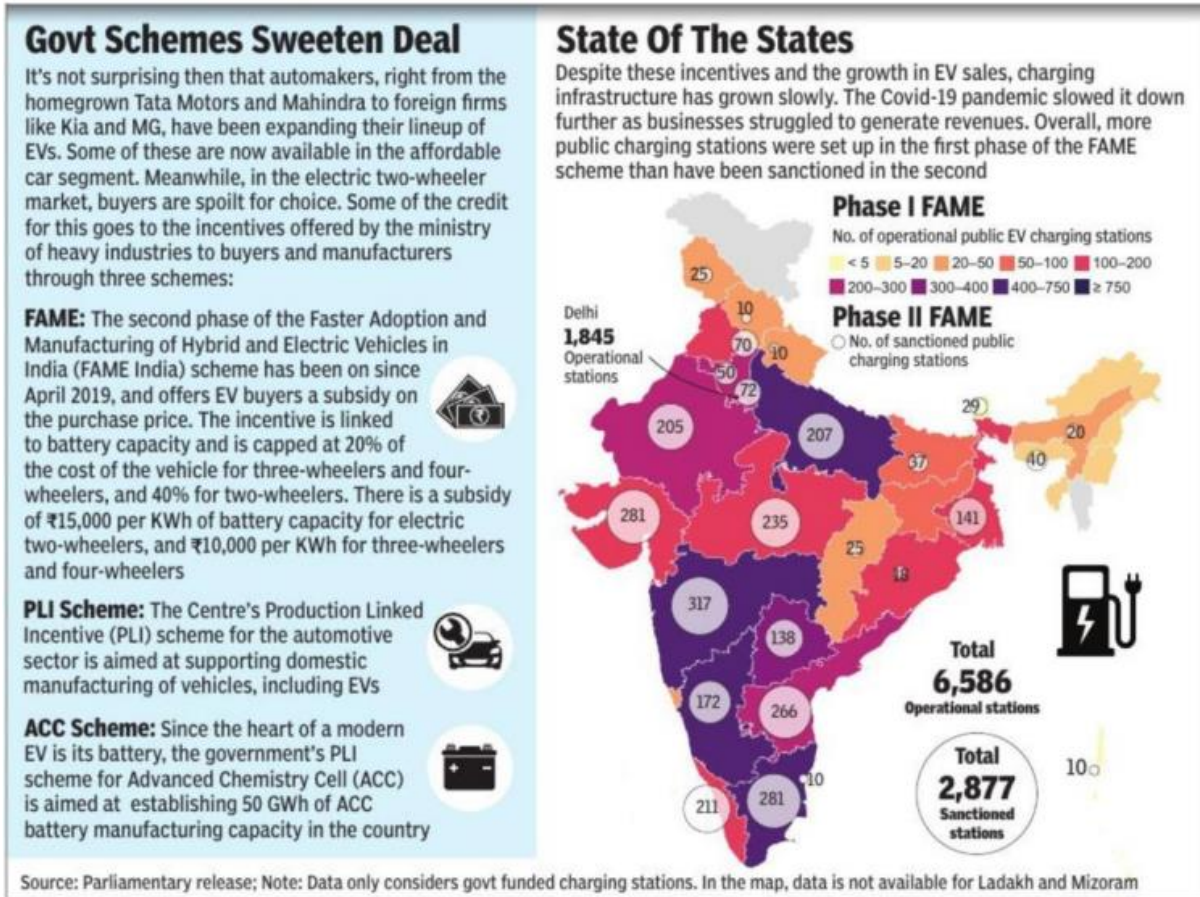
New Delhi Declaration – SCO



1. The **Indian government** coined the New Delhi Declaration and proposed at the SCO Summit, aiming to **fight against terrorism**.
2. The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) member nations adopted the New Delhi Declaration.

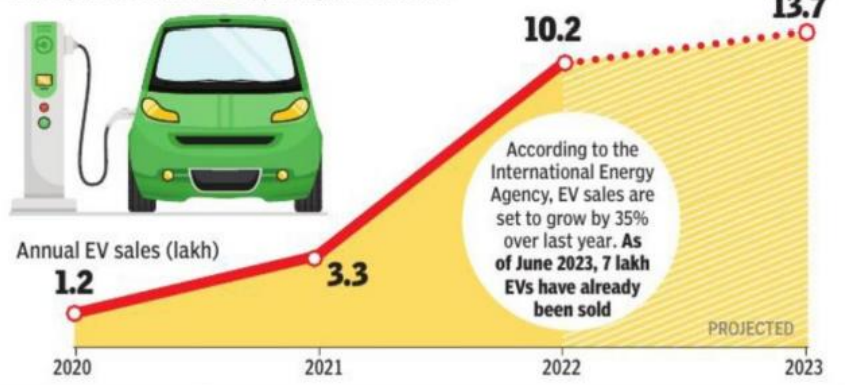
3. The Declaration also proposes **four other joint statements on de-radicalisation, sustainable lifestyle to tackle climate change, production of millets and digital transformation.**

Sales of electric vehicles in India – report



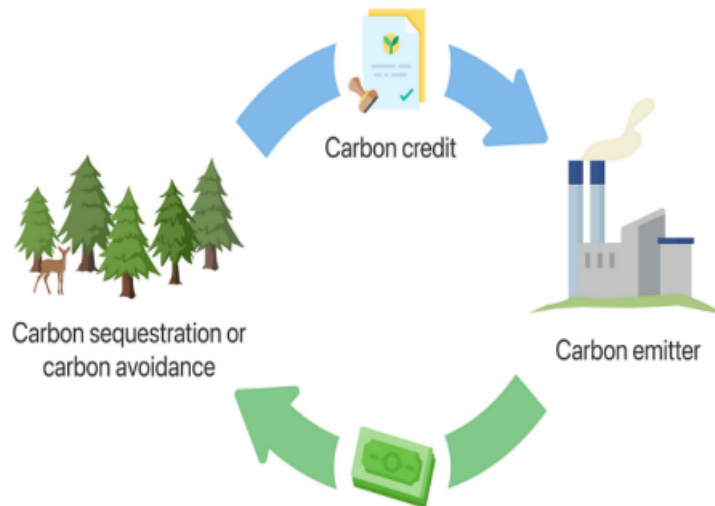
Demand Remains Strong

A report by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways shows EV sales grew more than eight times in just two years, from 2020 to 2022. However, this growth is on a low base and sustaining it will require investment in supporting infrastructure

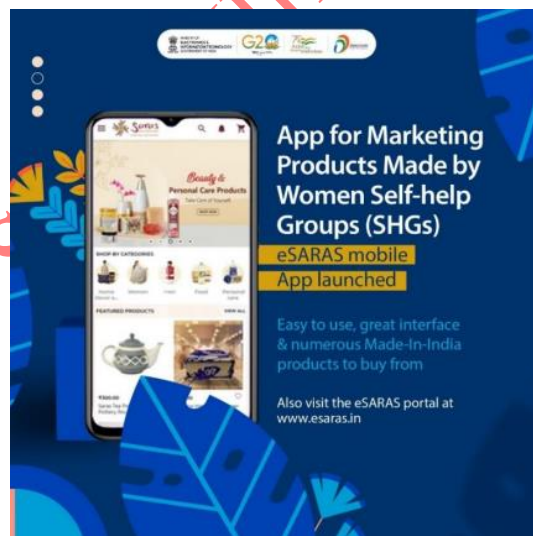


the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) as the carbon market regulator.

4. The **Grid Controller of India** will be the registry for the Indian carbon market.



E-Saras App



1. **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojna- National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM)** has launched the eSARAS mobile app.
2. It aims to **provide better marketing support** and **e-commerce opportunities** for products made by women in **self-help groups (SHGs)**.

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

3. This fulfilment centre will be used for **processing, packaging and shipping** of products that customers purchase through the eSARAS portal and eSARAS mobile app.
4. It will **handle the logistics** required to bring an online order to a customer's doorstep.

Startup20 Shikhar summit

1. The Startup20 Shikhar summit under India's G20 presidency held in **Gurugram**.
2. The Startup20 Engagement Group is hosting the two day Startup20 Shikhar summit.
3. During the closing ceremony of Startup20 Summit, **India officially handed over the torch to Brazil**, as the country has G20 presidency for the next year.



Digital and sustainable trade facilitation rankings

1. India's exceptional performance in the UNESCAP survey on digital and sustainable trade facilitation solidifies its position as a global leader in trade facilitation efforts.
2. According to the latest global survey conducted by the **United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia Pacific (UNESCAP)** India has achieved it.

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

2. **Pronab Sen** has been named the chair of the new committee.
3. He was the **India's first chief statistician** and the former chairman of the National Statistical Commission (NSC).



Birth Of Cubs

1. The newly notified **Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve (RVTR)** in **Bundi, Rajasthan** witnessed the birth of three cubs for the first time, after a year of reallocation of tigress in the park.



IIT at Abu Dhabi

1. A MoU has been signed between the **Ministry of Education and Abu Dhabi Department of Education**, and the **IIT Delhi** to establish 1st campus of **IIT Delhi in Abu Dhabi**.

Operation Trinetra-II

1. It is jointly carried out by the **Army and the Jammu-Kashmir Police** to **neutralize hiding terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir.**

First transnational project

1. The **Adani Group** commissioned the **India's first transnational project** at **Godda in Jharkhand** to supply power to the **Bangladesh electricity grid.**

New Guidelines for the Designation of Senior Advocates in SC

1. The **Supreme Court** has **published new guidelines** for the designation of senior advocates **practicing mainly in the Apex Court.**
2. This guideline replaced the guidelines issued by the top court in 2018, in the aftermath of its 2017 ruling in **Indira Jai Singh v. Union of India.**



3. This case seeking modification in the **conferment of 'senior advocate'** designation guidelines rendered in a 2017 SC ruling.
4. The new guidelines prescribe the **minimum age as 45 years** to apply for the 'senior advocate' designation.
5. This age limit may, **however, be relaxed by the Committee, the Chief Justice of India, or a Supreme Court judge** if they have **recommended an advocate's name.**
6. However, **no minimum age was prescribed under the 2017 guidelines** or even the current SC ruling.
7. The 2017 guidelines say that the **CJI along with "any judge" can recommend an advocate's name** for designation.

8. But the 2023 guidelines specify that the CJI along with “any Judge of the Supreme Court”.

Nari Sashaktikaran Women Motorcycle Rally

1. The **Indian Army** has launched the **Tri-Services ‘Nari Sashaktikaran Women Motorcycle Rally’** to commemorate **24 years of victory over Pakistan in the Kargil War of 1999.**

Digital and sustainable trade facilitation rankings

1. **United Nation’s Economic and Social Commission for Asia Pacific’s (UNESCAP)** released a **latest global survey** on digital and sustainable trade facilitation.
2. India’s score has jumped to **93.55% in 2023 from 90.32% in 2021.**

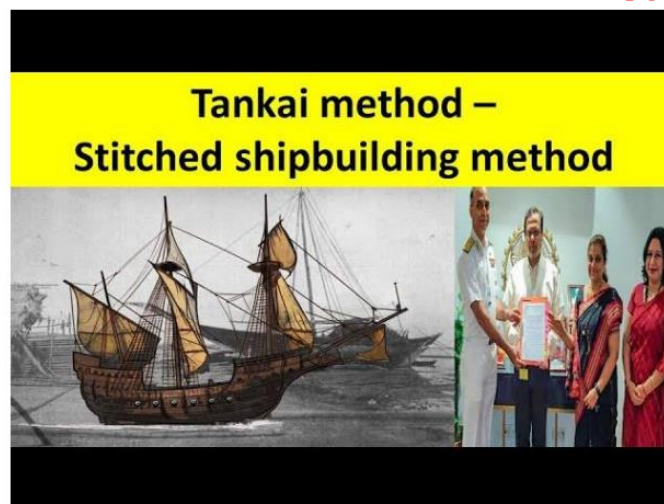


3. India achieved **100% in key areas** such as **transparency, formalities, institutional arrangement and cooperation, and paperless trade.**
4. Its score in the “**Women in Trade Facilitation**” component rose from **66.7% in 2021 to an impressive 77.8% in 2023.**
5. The overall score of **India has been greater** than many developed countries including Canada, France, UK, Germany etc.

4. These clouds are sometimes seen beneath **cumulonimbus clouds**, the dense, **towering vertical cloud** that causes intense rain.

Tankai method

1. The **Ministry of Culture and the Indian Navy** collaborated to revive and preserve a **shipbuilding technique that dates back 2,000 years**.
2. This ancient technique, is known as the **'Tankai' method or the "stitched shipbuilding method"**.
3. It is being revived with the aim of **preserving cultural heritage** for future generations.



Committee on Dark patterns

1. The **Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution** has asked e-commerce companies to not use dark patterns on their platforms.
2. These **unethical strategies** are designed to exploit certain cognitive and behavioural biases to persuade users **into purchasing goods and services they would typically not pay for**.
3. **Social media companies and tech giants** like Facebook, Apple, Amazon, Skype, LinkedIn, Microsoft and Google have used dark patterns.
4. Another example of dark patterns is the **unsolicited, sponsored messages one gets from influencers**.

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

Rajya Sabha panel of Vice – Chairpersons

1. The **Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar** has nominated **four women Parliamentarians** to the panel of Vice-Chairpersons.
2. All women members nominated to the panel are first term Parliamentarians.
3. The panel reconstituted before the Monsoon Session contains a **total of eight names, out of which half are women.**
4. This is the first time in the history of the Upper House that **equal representation has been given to women members** in the panel of Vice-Chairpersons.



Solar Star-C

1. India is considering expanding its solar STAR-C initiative operated by ISA, to a number of Pacific Island countries.



IMD Heat Index

1. India Meteorological Department (IMD) has launched **Heat Index on experimental basis.**
2. Heat Index provides guidance towards additional care to be taken by **people to reduce human discomfort.**
3. The following **colour codes** used for Experimental Heat Index
 - **Green:** Experimental Heat Index less than 35 deg C
 - **Yellow:** Experimental Heat Index in the range 36-45 deg C
 - **Orange:** Experimental Heat Index in the range 46-55 deg C
 - **Red:** Experimental Heat Index greater than 55 deg C

New tool for Met department

IMD, in addition to giving out the day's maximum and minimum temperatures, will soon issue a heat index (H.I.) reading

WHEN IS H.I. MOST REQUIRED?
Between June and August, when the high temperature and high humidity level makes stepping out uncomfortable. Prior to June, and after August, H.I. is similar or less than the actual temperature as dry heat is prevalent

COLOUR-CODED WARNINGS

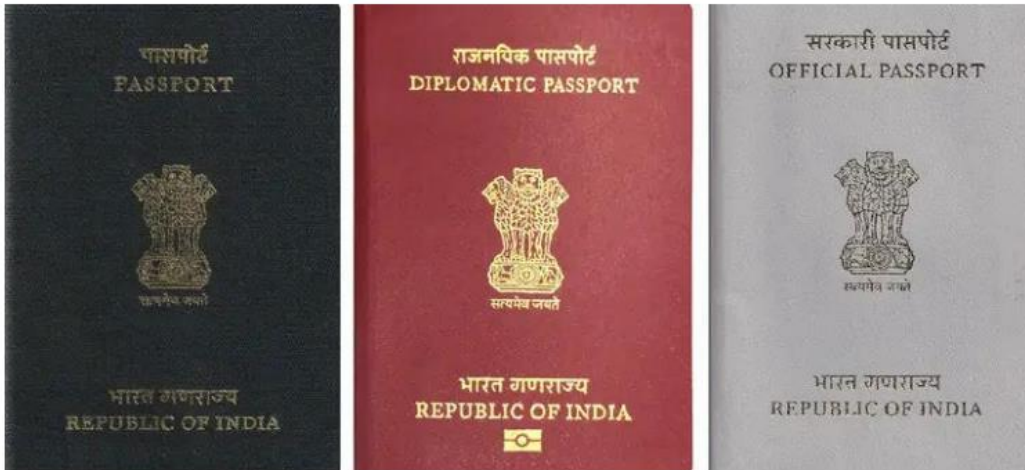
- GREEN ALERT**
No risk
- YELLOW ALERT**
Be aware of high heat
- ORANGE ALERT**
Be prepared to take precautionary action against heat, or avoid exposure
- RED ALERT**
Be vigilant, step out only if necessary

WHAT IS HEAT INDEX?
An H.I. reading gives an estimation of what the temperature actually feels like. It factors:

- Cloud cover
- Wind speed
- Relative humidity
- Maximum temperature

3. The event also witnessed the launch of ITC's **initiative** to **encourage consumers to become millet advocates** through its limited-edition digital collectible stamps.
4. **India is the largest producer of millets** in the world.

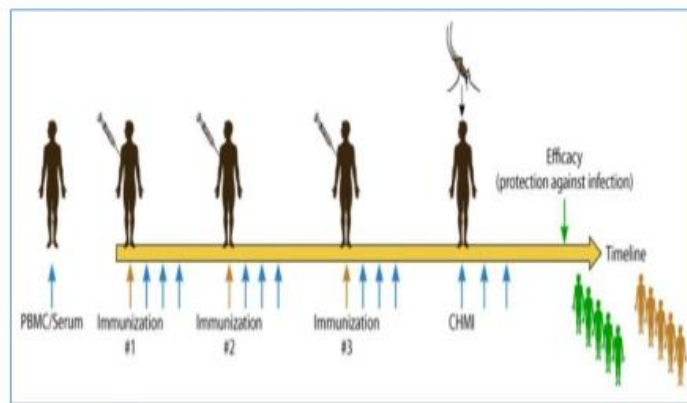
Right to hold a passport



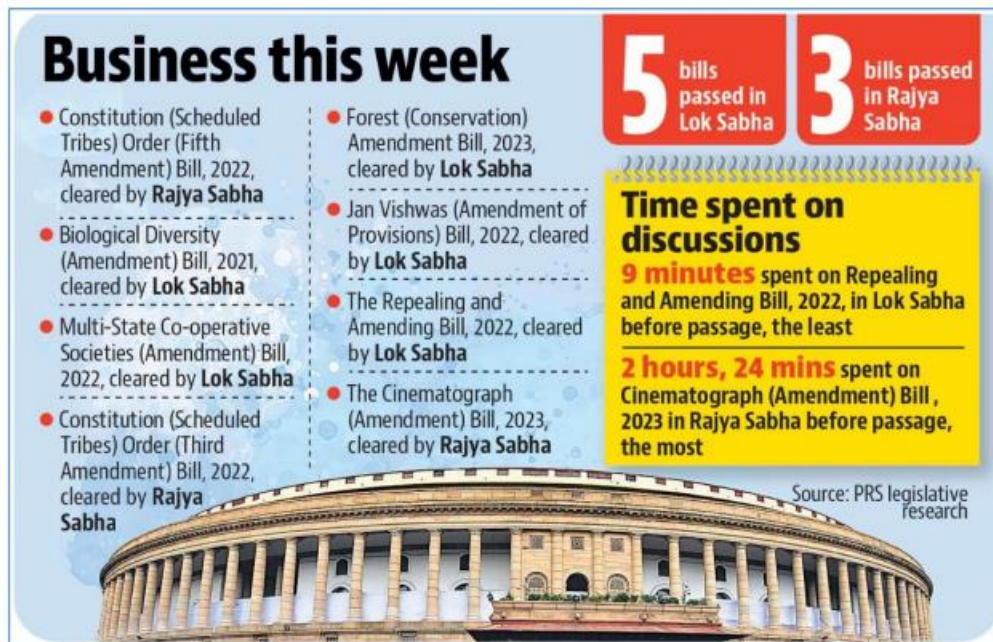
1. The **Delhi High Court** has said that every citizen has a **legal right** to hold a passport.
2. This right can be taken away **only in accordance with law**.
3. Authorities **cannot refuse to renew** it merely on an apprehension that the earlier passports might have been misused.

Controlled Human Infection Studies

1. The **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** has embarked on introducing Controlled Human Infection Studies (CHIS).

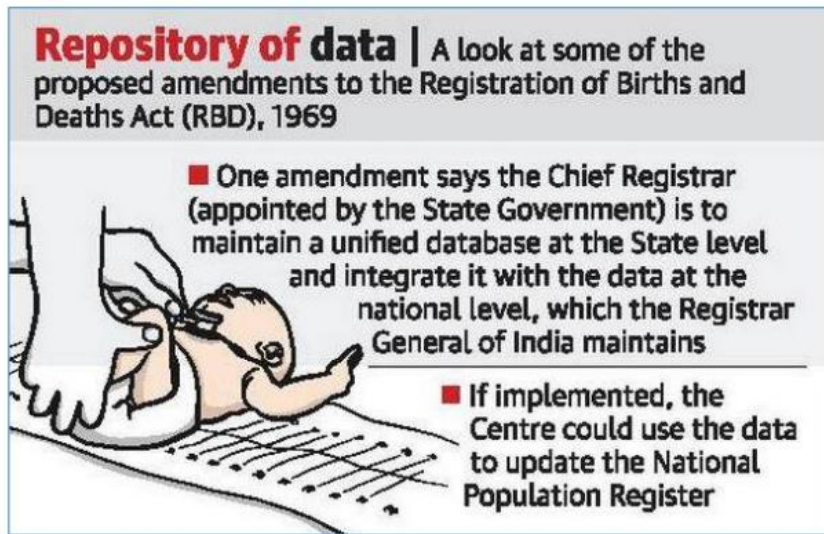


6. It includes **Saunra and Saonra communities** in entry 41 and to add **Binjhia community** in new entry 43.



Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, 2023

1. The new bill mandates Aadhaar number use for birth certification.
2. This development is part of an amendment to the original 1969 Act.
3. The proposed legislation would require the Aadhaar numbers of both parents and any informants during birth registration.
4. The bill proposes the appointment of Special "Sub-Registrars" to accelerate the registration of deaths and certificate issuance.
5. **It aims to provide that the Registrar must provide the certificate to such person within seven days.**
6. It aims to provide for obtaining births and deaths certificates (electronically or otherwise) instead of extracts.



The Cinematograph (Amendment) Bill, 2023

1. The Rajya Sabha passed the Cinematograph (Amendment) Bill, 2023.
2. It introduces **stringent anti-piracy provisions**, expanding the scope of the law from censorship to also cover copyright.
3. The Bill proposes a jail term of up to **three years and a fine up to 5%** of a film's production cost for persons who use any audio-visual recording device to copy a film.
4. The Bill seeks to amend the Cinematograph Act, 1952.
5. The Bill also introduces **three age ratings** for films requiring adult supervision.
6. Films currently get a **U/A rating**.
7. It has been split into **U/A 7+, U/A 13+ and U/A 16+**.

'Meri Mati Mera Desh' campaign

1. Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the launch of "Meri Mati Mera Desh" campaign in run-up to Independence Day to **honor the martyred bravehearts of the country**.

ULLAS mobile application

1. Centre launches ULLAS mobile application to promote basic literacy.

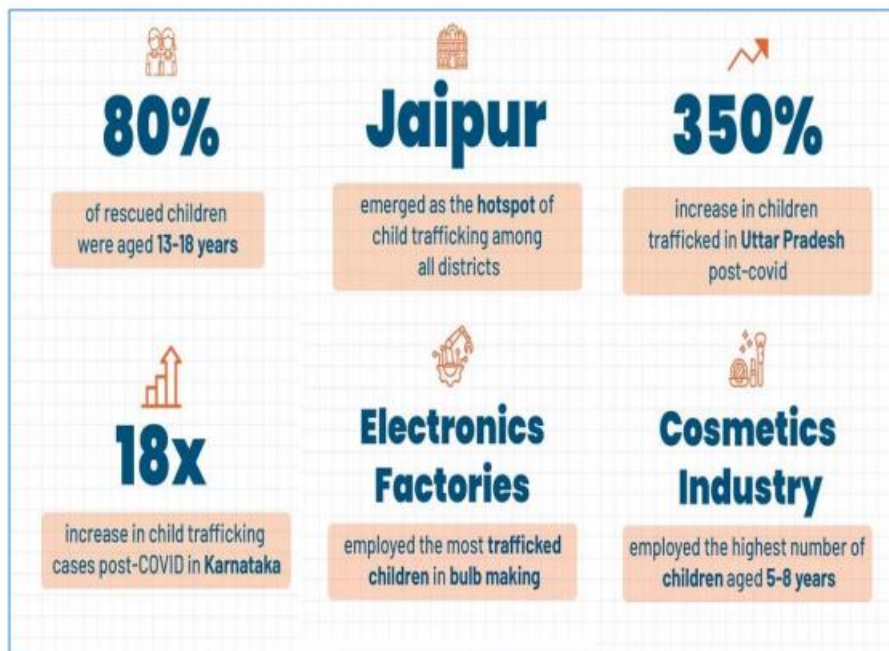
SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

- It aims to revolutionize education and literacy in India by creating a comprehensive learning ecosystem that bridges gaps in basic literacy and critical life skills. It coincided with the third anniversary of NEP 2020.



Child Trafficking in India



- The report titled '**Child Trafficking in India: Insights from Situational Data Analysis and the Need for Tech-driven Intervention Strategies**' was released recently.
- The new study was conducted by the **NGO Games24x7** and the **Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation (KSCF)**.

3. **Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Andhra Pradesh** are the **top three states** with the highest number of children trafficked between **2016 and 2022**.
4. Delhi has experienced a **68% rise in child trafficking** cases from pre to post-Covid times.
5. The number of reported incidents in the **pre-Covid phase (2016-2019)** was **267**.
6. But it rose intensely to **1214 in the post-Covid phase (2021-2022)**.
7. **Karnataka** witnessed an **18-fold increase**, increasing from **6 to 110 reported incidents** of child trafficking.
8. **Jaipur City** emerged as the **top district in child trafficking**, with four other districts in Delhi appeared in the top slots.
9. As many as **13,549 children** under the age of 18 were rescued during this period.

Urea Gold for farmers

1. The Urea Gold was launched in **Rajasthan recently**.
2. "Urea Gold" is a new variety of urea that is **coated with sulphur**.
3. It is expected to **address sulphur deficiencies** in the soil.



4. This "**innovative fertiliser**" is more **economical and efficient** than neem-coated urea.
5. It is ensuring improved **nitrogen use efficiency, reduced consumption, and enhanced crop quality**.
6. Urea coated with sulphur helps in **slow release of nitrogen**, therefore increasing its availability and uptake.
7. **15 kg of Urea Gold** is **comparable to 20 kg of conventional urea**.

INTERNATIONAL

Chennai-Vladivostok maritime route

1. **India and Russia** are keen to make the Chennai – Vladivostok maritime route operational.
2. The Vladivostok – Chennai route **passes through the Sea of Japan, the South China Sea and Malacca Strait.**
3. The proposed route is expected to take **only 12 days**, compared to the **current route's duration of 32 days.**



Summit on New Global Financial Pact



1. The **French President Emmanuel Macron** hosted the Summit for a New Global Financing Pact (Pact Summit) in **Paris, France.**

2. The Summit was announced at the **27th Conference of Parties (COP27)** to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
3. The summit was precipitated as a **follow-up to the Bridgetown Initiative**.
4. It is a package of proposals **to get more money flowing** from developed to developing countries **for climate and development**.

Thin plastic bags

1. New Zealand - will become the **first country to ban the thin plastic bags** that supermarket customers use to collect their fruit and vegetables.
2. Each New Zealander sends more than **three-quarters of a ton of waste to landfills** every year.

Japan redefines Age of Consent

1. Japan's Parliament (Diet) raised the age of consent from **13 to 16**.
2. Japan had the **lowest in the world** as 13.
3. The age of consent, below which **any sexual activity is considered rape**, is different in different countries.
4. **India** has set **18 as the age of consent**, whereas it is 16 in Britain and 14 in Germany and China.



USA returns to UNESCO

1. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) announced that the United States will rejoin it in July.

3. A set of **13 principles**, the Artemis Accords is closely linked to the Artemis Program.
4. It aims to **return astronauts to the lunar surface**, build a **space camp** there, and carry out **deep space exploration**.
5. It contains a set of principles and guidelines for the civil exploration and **use of the Moon, Mars, comets and asteroids**.

World's most powerful military

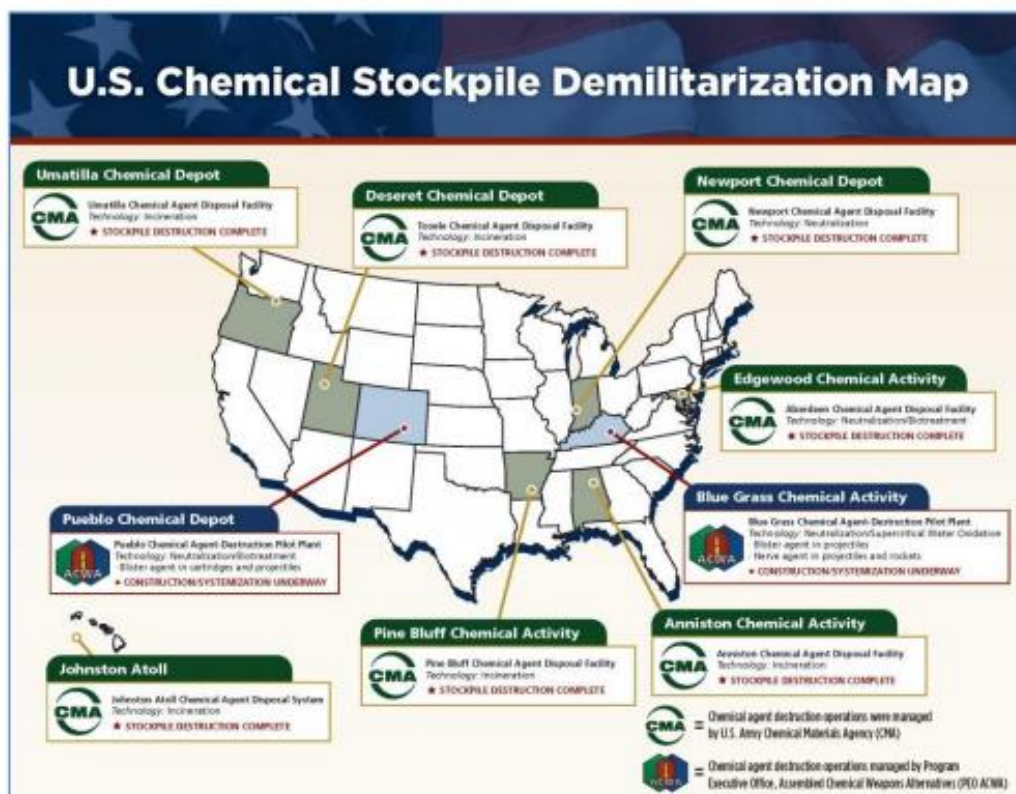
1. According to **Global Firepower**, the United States possesses the most powerful military force worldwide.
2. The report lists **145 countries** and also compares each nation's year-on-year ranking changes.
3. The top **four nations** remain as they were in the **2022 Global Firepower list**.
4. **Pakistan has entered the top 10**, securing the seventh spot.



U.S chemical weapons

1. The **United States** has destroyed the **last of its declared chemical weapons stockpile**.
2. Chemical weapons were **first used in modern warfare in World War I**.
3. They were estimated to have killed **at least 100,000 people**.
4. Nearly **800,000 chemical munitions** containing mustard agent were stored since the 1950s.

5. The US faced a **September 30** deadline to eliminate its remaining chemical weapons under the international **Chemical Weapons Convention**.
6. This Convention took **effect in 1997** and was joined by **193 countries**.
7. Only **three countries** - **Egypt, North Korea and South Sudan** have not signed the treaty.
8. A **fourth, Israel**, has signed **but not ratified** the treaty.

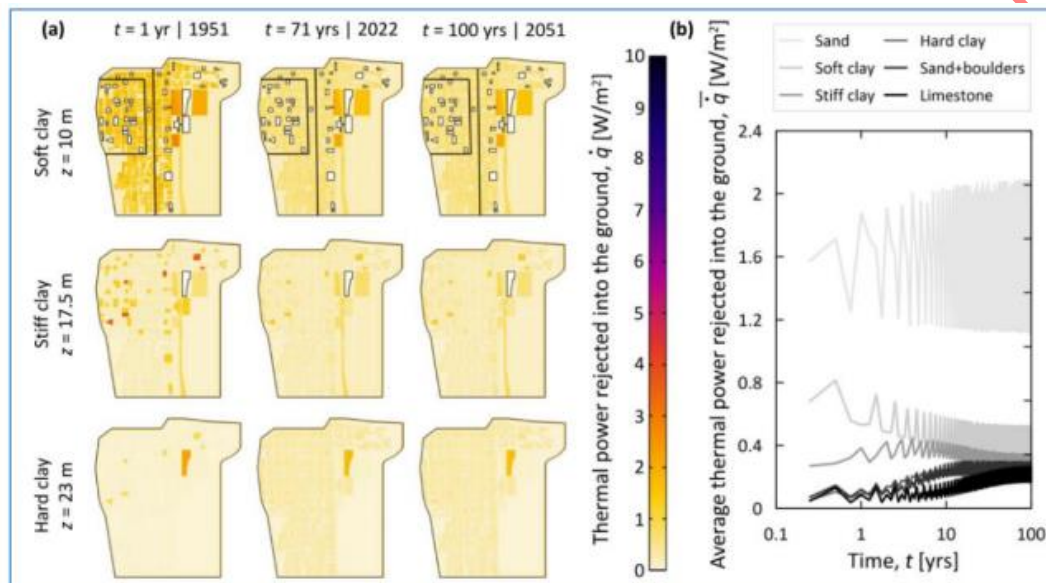


U.S. Senate Committee's Resolution on Arunachal Pradesh

1. **U.S Congressional Senatorial Committee** has passed a resolution recognising Arunachal Pradesh as an integral part of India.
2. The resolution **reaffirms that the United States recognises the McMahon Line as the international boundary between China and the Indian state of Arunachal Pradesh.**
3. It pushes back against Chinese claims that large portions of Arunachal Pradesh are PRC territory.
4. The resolution will now go to the Senate floor for a full vote.

Underground Climate Change

1. According to the research done in **North-western University in Illinois** in the US, Underground Climate Change is a **silent hazard** that threatens major cities across the world.
2. The **heat from buildings** in underground transportation system diffuses below the surface.

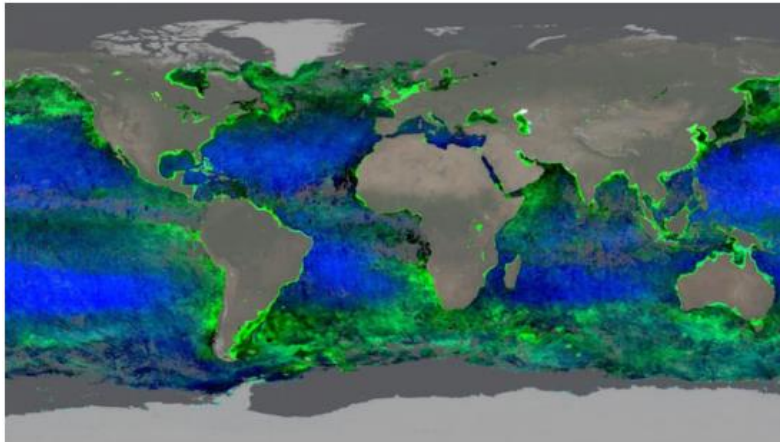


3. Over time the **ground warms** and then **expansions and contractions** caused by this heat creates rocks.
4. They also claim that such **rising temperatures** may have contributed to previous building deterioration.

Change in color of world's Ocean

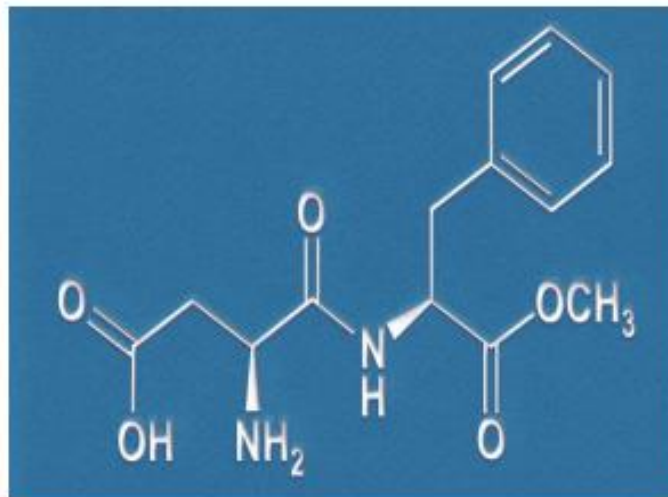
1. As per the recent studies, climate change has caused a change in the colour of **56 per cent** of the world's ocean.
2. It found that **waters in the tropics**, particularly the **southern Indian Ocean**, have turned green.
3. Green-coloured water indicates an **increase in phytoplankton, microscopic plantlike organisms** that are crucial for **marine life and carbon dioxide absorption**.
4. The researchers analysed data from the **Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS)** aboard the **Aqua satellite**.

5. They observed long-term trends and used models to simulate scenarios with and without greenhouse gas emissions.



Aspartame

1. The WHO, FAO and International Agency for Research on Cancer declare artificial sweetener **aspartame** as **possibly carcinogenic**.
2. Aspartame is **an artificial sweetener** used as a **sugar substitute** in a wide range of food and beverage products.
3. It is a **low-calorie sweetener**, approximately **200 times sweeter than sucrose (table sugar)**.



New methane source

1. **Climate change** is causing **groundwater springs to release methane** in the **Arctic**.

2. The groundwater springs found in Svalbard, an archipelago in the Arctic, could be emitting over 2,000 tonnes of methane.
3. This figure equals 10% of the methane emissions from Norway's annual oil and gas energy industry.
4. Methane, a greenhouse gas, is 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide on a 20-year timescale.

World Humanitarian Drive

1. World Humanitarian Drive (WHD) is an International NGO with operations in 12 countries.
2. It is founded in the U.K. by British Indian global peace activist, Abdul Basit Syed.
3. WHD is aims to promoting international education and trade.
4. It has been granted special consultative status by United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).
5. The WHD also promotes key initiatives between India and the UK.

Twitter replaces iconic bird logo

1. Elon Musk, owner of Twitter launched the new logo of Twitter 'X' by replacing the iconic bird logo.
2. The "X" logo has been in the pipeline for a while with Musk's strong want of an "everything app".



Switzerland's Plan for carbon neutrality

1. Switzerland brought a new climate bill aimed at **achieving carbon neutrality by 2050**.
2. The law seeks to reduce dependence on **imported oil and gas and promote greener alternatives**.
3. The fund will be used to promote the replacement of gas or oil heating systems with climate-friendly alternatives, as well as aid to push businesses towards green innovation.

Semiconductor pact with India

1. **Japan has become the second Quad partner** after the United States to sign an agreement on semiconductor with India.
2. This pact signed for the **joint development of the semiconductor ecosystem** and maintain the resilience of its global supply chain.
3. With around **100 semiconductor manufacturing plants**, Japan is among the top five countries to have a semiconductor ecosystem.



European Sky Shield Initiative

1. **Austria and Switzerland** have joined the 'European Sky Shield Initiative' (ESSI) for **air defence** in response to **Russia's attack on Ukraine**.
2. The European Sky Shield Initiative (ESSI) is a regional grouping of European countries aimed at developing a common air and missile defence system.

4. Missions that orbit **above an altitude of 375 kilometres** should have an ability to actively manage the orbit.
5. The guidelines encourage a **propulsion-based system** but other technologies could be more appropriate depending on the situation.
6. It encourages industry players to further study the objects in orbit—the population, evolution, and the interaction between them.
7. **Russia has the most space debris with over 7000 rocket bodies** floating in space.

Russia bans sex change and transgender marriages

1. Russian President Vladimir Putin has signed a new legislation that deals a significant blow to the **LGBTQ+ community** in the country.
2. The act, passed unanimously by both houses of parliament, strictly prohibits individuals from officially or medically changing their gender, further marginalizing Russia's embattled **LGBTQ+ population**.

BRICS Urbanization Forum



1. This year, the forum has its first in-person follow-up in the **vibrant South African city of Durban, South Africa**.
2. It aims to delve into **key urban developmental issues** and explore how cities globally are enhancing their resilience to meet emerging challenges.
3. The last edition of the forum was hosted online **under the presidency of China in 2022**.

4. The BRICS Urbanisation Forum that was **inaugurated in New Delhi in February 2013.**

Gender change and transgender marriages

1. **Russia passed a law** that outlawing **gender-affirming procedures**, a crippling blow to Russia's already embattled LGBTQ+ community.
2. This law bans any **“medical interventions aimed at changing the sex of a person,”** as well as changing one's gender in official documents and public records.
3. The only exception will be medical intervention to treat congenital anomalies.
4. It also **annuls marriages** in which one person has “changed gender” and **bars transgender people from becoming foster or adoptive parents.**



5. In 2013, the Kremlin adopted legislation that banned any public endorsement of “non-traditional sexual relations” among minors.
6. In 2020, Putin pushed through constitutional reform that outlawed same-sex marriage.
7. Last year he signed a law banning **“propaganda of nontraditional sexual relations” among adults** as well.

Global Parliamentary Pact

1. The **second** Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition was **held in Chile.**

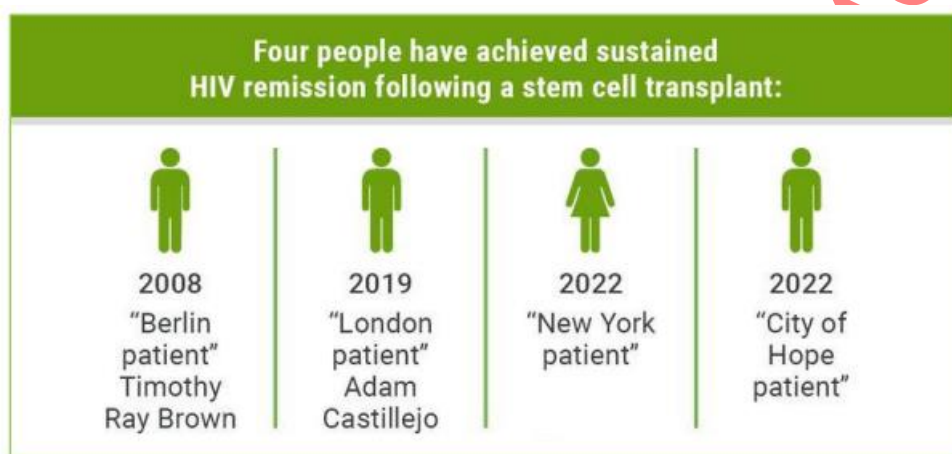
2. Parliamentarians **from 64 countries signed** the Global Parliamentary Pact at the summit.
3. They all are committing **to push for reforms in the agrifood system to make food sustainable** and accessible to all.
4. They have formed a **new multilateral body to address the issues of poverty, hunger, and malnutrition** in the agrifood system.
5. **The first such summit** on hunger and malnutrition was conducted in **Spain in 2018.**
6. In **2021**, there were **46 million more people** who endured hunger than in **2020.**
7. Some **2.3 billion people** in the world **did not have access** to adequate food in 2021.



Sixth Person cured from HIV

1. A **sixth person with HIV**, being referred to as the **Geneva patient**, has **likely been cured of HIV** after **receiving a stem cell transplant** for leukaemia.
2. The level of virus in his blood remained undetectable **20 months** after his **antiretroviral therapy** was discontinued.
3. This patient underwent a **stem cell transplant in 2018** for an aggressive form of leukaemia.
4. Twenty months later, his **tests did not find any viral particles**, latent reservoirs of the infection, or elevated immune response against the virus.

5. All the six patients who have achieved HIV remission so far needed the **stem cell transplantation for treatment of their cancers.**
6. In the first five cases, however, the treatment teams specifically looked for **donors with CCR5 delta 32 mutation** that is associated with **lower risk of HIV.**
7. HIV **lowers immunity in infected individuals** by attacking the **CD4 immune cells.**
8. **Berlin patient**, became the **first person to overcome HIV after two stem cell transplants in 2007 and 2008.**



Israel's Judicial Reform Bill

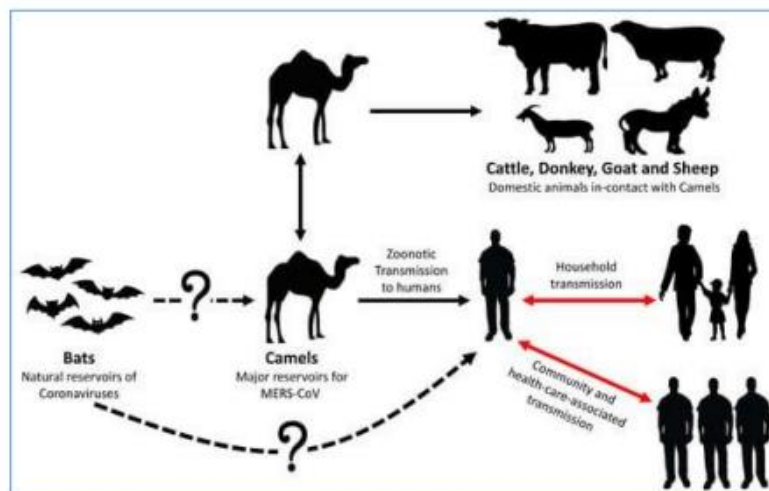
1. Israel's parliament passed the controversial "reasonable standard bill."
2. This is the first major legislation in the government's plan to weaken the judiciary.



3. This bill strips the Supreme Court of the power to declare government decisions unreasonable.
4. It scraps the requirement for ministers to obey the advice of their legal advisers - guided by the attorney general.

First case of MERS-CoV in 2023

1. **World Health Organization (WHO)** has identified a case of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV) from **United Arab Emirates (UAE)**.
2. MERS-CoV is a **viral respiratory infection** that is caused by a coronavirus called **Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV)**.
3. Humans are infected with **direct or indirect contact with dromedary camels**.
4. They are the **natural host and zoonotic source** of the MERS-CoV infection.



Global Education Monitoring Report 2023

1. The UNESCO's Global Education Monitoring Report 2023 was titled **'Technology in Education: A Tool on Whose Terms'**.
2. It has endorsed **banning smartphones in schools** in situations where "technology integration does not improve learning or if it worsens student well-being".

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

3. It highlighted that “**mere proximity to a mobile device** was found to distract students and to have a negative impact on learning in 14 countries.
4. Currently, **less than one in four have banned** smartphone use in schools”.
5. Only 16% of countries explicitly guarantee data privacy in education by law.
6. The Global Education Monitoring Report: Established in 2002.



Lowest Extent



1. Antarctica’s sea ice has been recorded low level of about **14.2 million sq. km**, significantly below the normal extent of **16.7 million sq. km** for this time of year.
2. Antarctica **lost about 2.6 million sq. km** of sea ice compared to the long-term average of the satellite era.

3. The coalition includes **39 founding members** from **11 different nations.**'
4. The RECEIC is designed to be a platform for knowledge and best practice exchange, fostering sustainable practices among its participating industries.

DEFENCE

Air exercise 'Tarang Shakti'

1. The **Indian Air Force** will hold the **largest multi-national** air exercise 'Tarang Shakti' to **strengthen military co-operation** between the air forces.
2. The **Indian Air Force (IAF)** is set to host its **first-ever multi-national** air exercise called '**Tarang Shakti**' in October-November this year.
3. With the participation of several nations, including the **United States, United Kingdom, France, and Australia.**



JIMEX 23



1. The **seventh edition of the bilateral** Japan-India Maritime Exercise 2023 hosted by the Indian Navy, to be conducted at **Visakhapatnam.**

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

2. This exercise marks the **11th anniversary of JIMEX** since its inception in 2012 and aims to **enhance the interoperability and cooperation** between the Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF) and the Indian Navy.

SALVEX Exercise

1. The successful conduct of the seventh edition of SALVEX reflects the commitment of the Indian Navy and the US Navy to deepen their operational cooperation and strengthen bilateral ties.
2. The Indian Navy and the US Navy successfully concluded the seventh edition of the Indian Navy – US Navy (IN – USN) **Salvage and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) exercise, SALVEX**, held from June 26 to July 6, 2023, in **Kochi**.

Nomadic Elephant – 2023

1. A group of **43 Indian Army personnel** departed for **Mongolia** today to take part in the **15th edition of the joint military exercise** called "NOMADIC ELEPHANT-23."
2. The exercise is set to occur in **Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia** from **July 17th to July 31st, 2023**.
3. NOMADIC ELEPHANT is an annual training event between **India and Mongolia**, held alternately in both countries.



Operation Southern Readiness 2023

1. **INS Sunayna**, a vessel of the Indian Navy, recently visited Seychelles as part of Operation Southern Readiness 2023, conducted by the **Combined Maritime Forces (CMF)**.

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

2. This visit aimed to strengthen **multilateral ties** and enhance **cooperation** through a series of exercises and engagements.



3. The exercise brought together navies from the **USA, Italy, UK, Seychelles Defence Forces, Marine Police, and member nations of EUNAVFOR.**

Security Bond-2023

1. Third edition of **5-day military exercise** called "**Security Bond-2023**" to take place in **Gulf of Oman**, involving coordinated naval operations by **China, Iran, and Russia.**
2. This exercise, spanning five days, aims to **safeguard critical maritime routes.**
3. The Security Bond drills are occurring simultaneously with the final phase of the 18-day **International Maritime Exercise 2023 (IMX 2023)**, which is recognized as the **largest maritime exercise** in the Middle East region.

Op Southern Readiness 2023

1. **INS Sunayna ship** participated in the multinational **maritime security** exercise known as **Op Southern Readiness 2023 in Seychelles.**

G20 THINQ

1. The **Indian Navy** has launched the **second edition of "G20 THINQ"** with the aim of uniting **young individuals from diverse regions** and geographies, fostering lasting friendships among them.

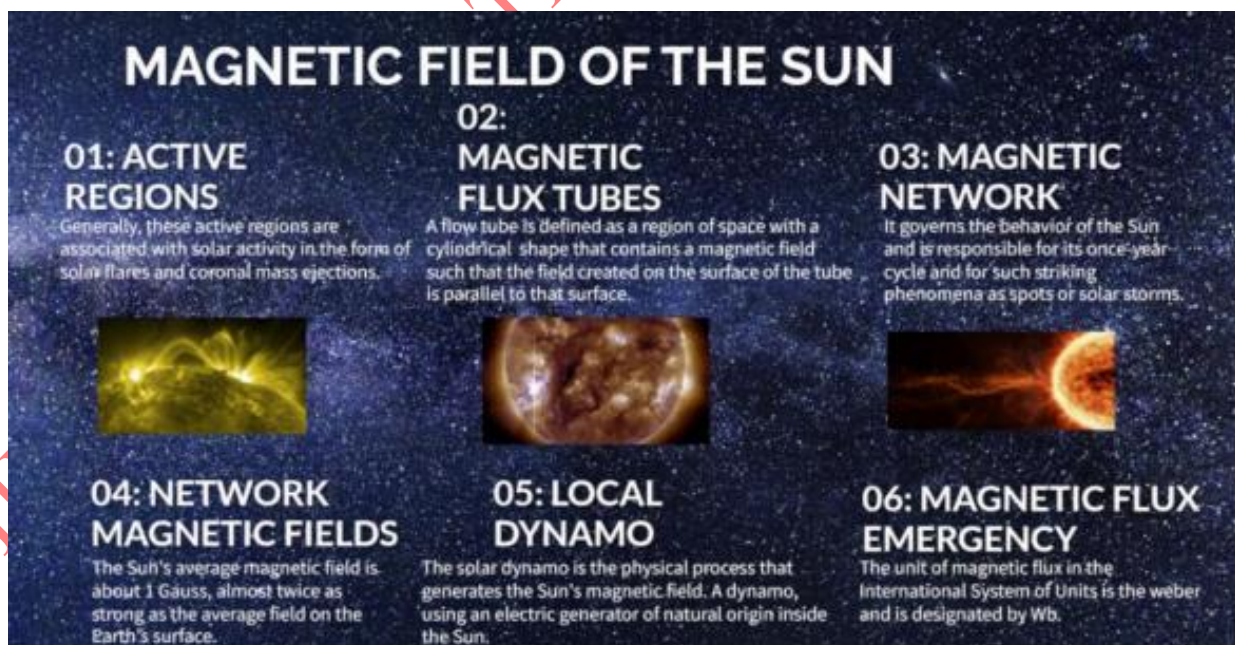
2. The **second** edition of “G20 THINQ” has been launched by the **Indian Navy** and the Navy Welfare and Wellness Association (NWWA), with the support of the G20 Secretariat.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

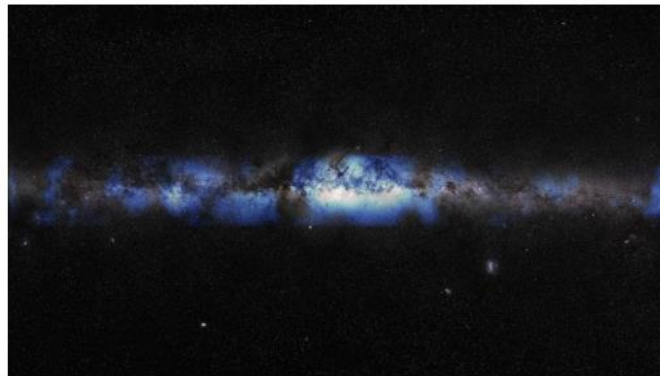
Solar Mean Magnetic Field

1. Latest study has given a clearer picture of how the sun’s magnetic field influences the **interplanetary magnetic space**.
2. SMMF refers to the **average strength and direction of the magnetic field on the surface of the Sun**.
3. The studies suggests that the **primordial magnetic field inside the sun** could be a source of the SMMF.



First-ever view of the Milky Way

1. Data collected by an **observatory in Antarctica** has produced our **first view of the Milky Way galaxy** through the **lens of neutrino particles**.
2. It's the first time we have seen our **galaxy "painted" with a particle, rather than in different wavelengths of light**.
3. The **Ice Cube Neutrino Observatory** uses a **gigatonne of the ultra-transparent ice** under huge pressures to detect a **form of energy called Cherenkov radiation**.
4. Its result in roughly **spherical showers of light** and give the researchers a better level of sensitivity to the **astrophysical neutrinos** from the Milky Way.



Sagar Sampark

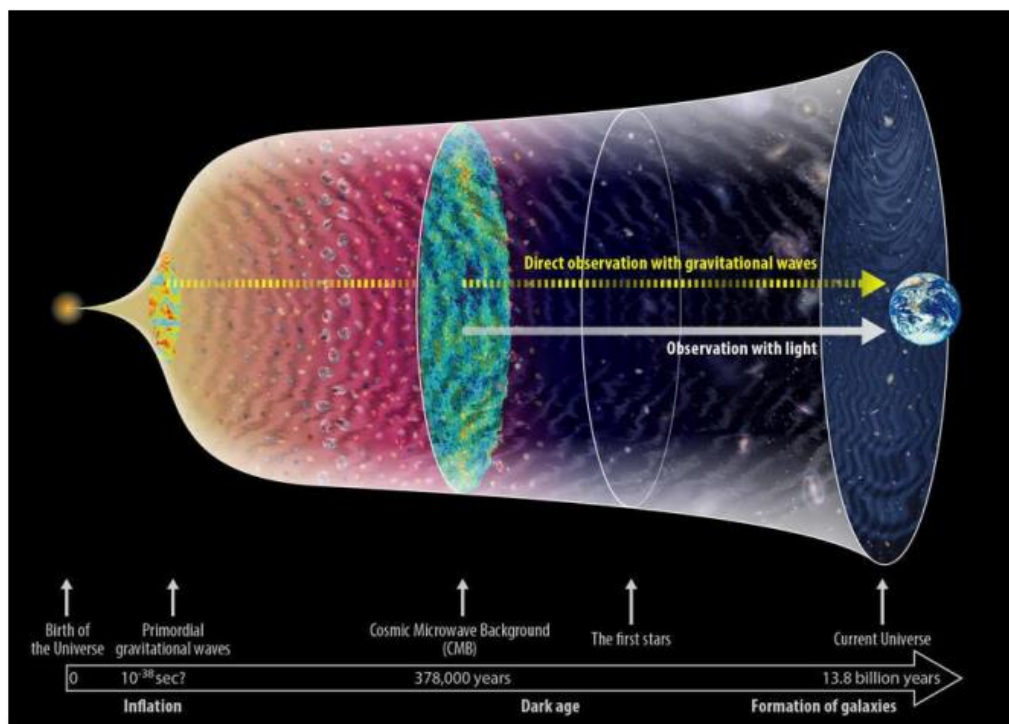


1. The **indigenously developed Differential Global Navigation Satellite System (DGNSS)** was inaugurated recently.
2. This state-of-the-art system is named 'Sagar Sampark'.
3. It aims to **strengthening digital transformation** of the Indian maritime sector.

4. It enhances **navigation safety** by reducing the risk of collisions, groundings, and accidents.

Gravitational wave background

1. Scientists have officially made the **first detections of the gravitational wave background.**
2. It is a sign that gravitational waves from **slowly merging pairs of supermassive black holes** can be detected from **Earth in a background field of low-frequency energy.**
3. Gravitational waves are created by **astronomically dense objects** in our universe, usually in orbit around each other.
4. They discovered **first in 2015** by the **Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory, or LIGO.**



Synthetic Embryos

1. Recently, scientists have successfully created advanced **embryo-like structures using human stem cells.**
2. These synthetic embryos develop similarly to natural embryos at around **14 days after fertilization.**

3. This remarkable advancement has the potential to transform the understanding and practices of **In Vitro Fertilization (IVF)**.

	Adult Stem Cells	Embryonic Stem Cells
DEFINITION	Adult stem cells are a type of stem cells present in differentiated tissues and organs of adults and children	Embryonic stem cells are a type of stem cells present in the early stages of embryonic development
POTENCY	Multipotent	Pluripotent
GROWING IN CELL CULTURES	Very challenging	Relatively easy
EXAMPLES	Present in skeletal muscle, liver, pancreas, brain, eye, dental pulp, skin, bone marrow, blood and the lining of the gastrointestinal tract	Present in the inner cell mass of the blastocyst which gives rise to the three germ layers

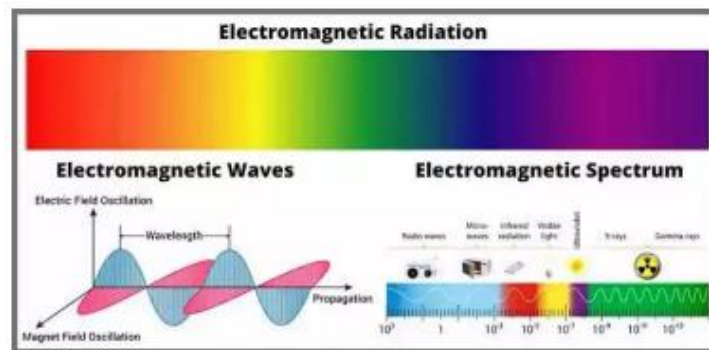
Majorana Zero Mode

- The particles, also known as Majorana fermions, were first proposed by Italian physicist Ettore Majorana in 1937.
- They possess special properties that make them their own antiparticles, which is advantageous for building quantum computers.



1. **Microsoft** announced a significant innovation in the creation of Majorana Zero Modes.
2. **All particles have four quantum numbers** associated with them.
3. No two particles in the same system can have the same four quantum numbers.
4. A quantum computer made with qubit as Majorana zero mode and can be encoded with information onto some property of the mode.

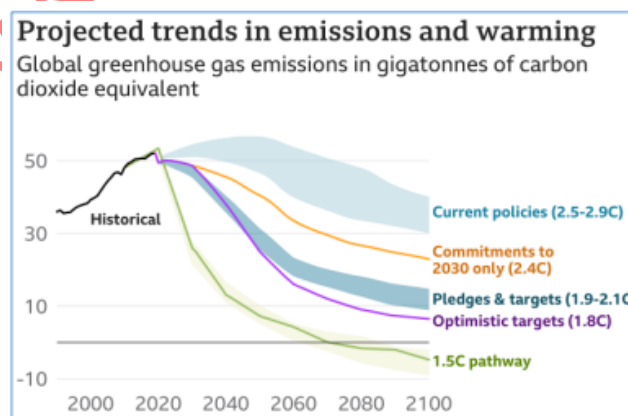
Electromagnetic Field (EMF) Radiation



1. Recently, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Delhi LSA, organized a webinar focused on raising awareness about Electromagnetic Field (EMF) radiation.
2. The event aimed to address misconceptions surrounding the potential harmful effects of EMF radiation from mobile towers.
3. Experts shed light on the nature of EMF emissions, safety measures, and the role of international organizations in setting limits.

1.5 Degree Celsius Temperature Threshold

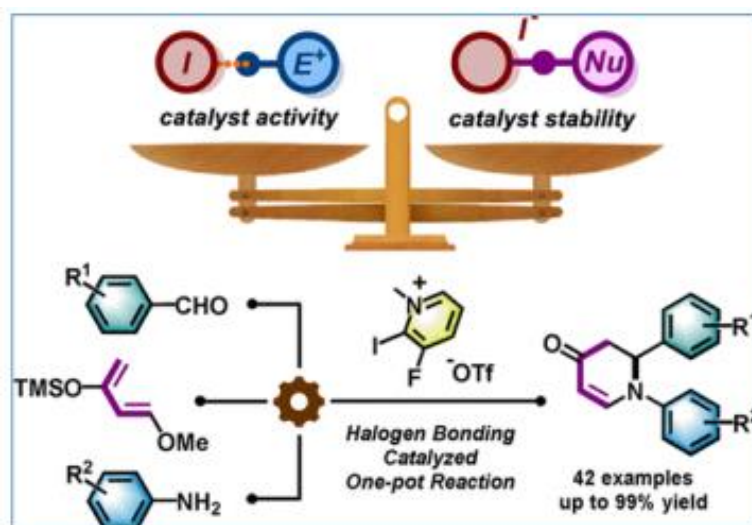
1. The global mean temperature crossed the key **1.5 degrees Celsius limit** at the start of June, 2023.
2. This is the first time that the target was **breached in the summer months**.



3. But it was all **only in the winter and spring months**.
4. So far, **the warmest year has been 2016**, when global mean temperatures were over **1.28 degrees Celsius**.

Short-lived halogens

1. It is produced naturally by phytoplankton and algae found in the oceans.
2. Its major constituents are chlorine, bromine or iodine and its life span is less than six months.
3. According to a recent study, the oceans contribute 8-10% to the cooling of the planet by emitting short-lived halogens.
4. They calculated that short-lived halogen from oceans reduces warming by depleting ozone.



American bald eagle

1. The American bald eagle was **removed from the endangered species list in 2007**, marking a significant milestone in its conservation.
2. Since then, the population of the **bird has steadily risen**.



3. A **2021 report** by the US Fish and Wildlife Service said that the number of bald eagles in the wild has **quadrupled since 2009**.
4. It is the only **sea eagle endemic to North America**.
5. The **average life span of bald eagles is 20 to 30 years** .

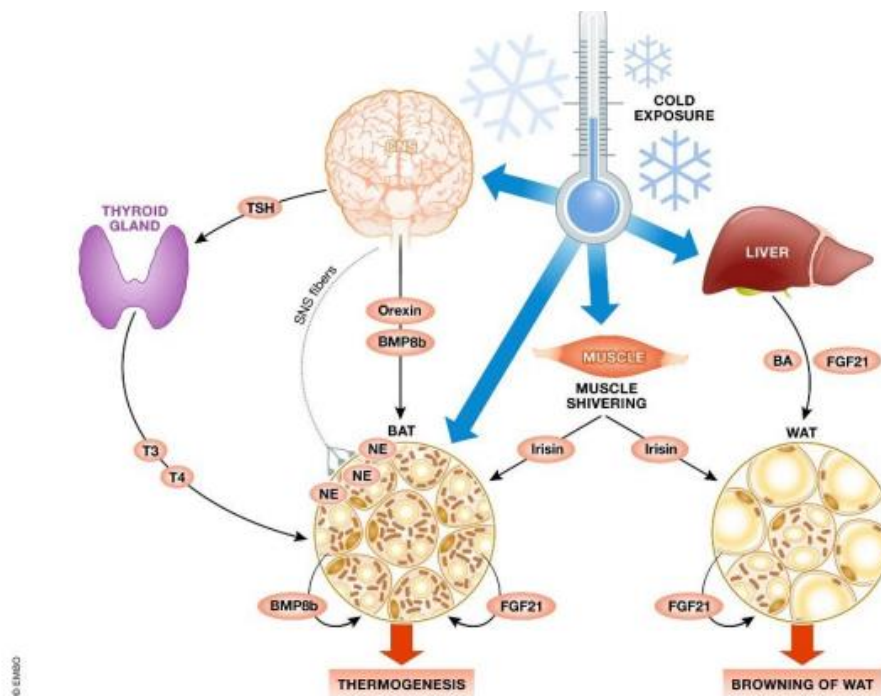
X-ray Auroras in Mercury

1. The **Bepi Colombo spacecraft** made its first close flyby near the burning-hot planet on **October 1, 2021**.
2. The spacecraft approached **Mercury from the night side of the northern hemisphere and made a close approach in the morning side of the southern hemisphere**.
3. Using the observations made by the spacecraft, scientists discovered that **electrons from the Sun** raining down on the surface of the planet generates **X-ray auroras on Mercury**.
4. Mercury has a **very thin atmosphere**, meaning that a **lot of electrons from solar wind crash** onto the surface.



Inter-organ communication

1. **IIT-M have developed a computational approach called “multicens” to understand inter-organ communication network in humans**.
2. Multicens will help uncover key molecular mediators of inter-organ communication.



3. They used the genomic information available for various tissues to develop this method.
4. **Exchange of information between organs and tissues** allows organisms to **adapt to changes in their environment**, assess their energy reserves and maintain overall well-being.

Organic matter on Mars

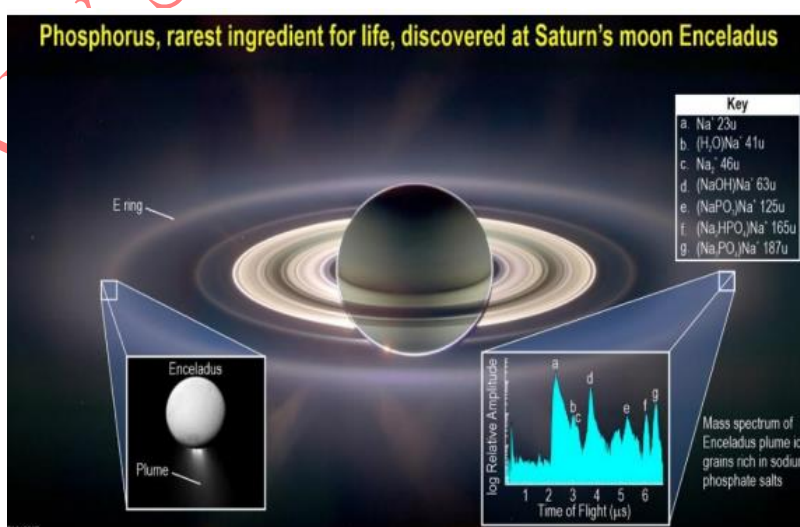
1. NASA's **Perseverance rover** has discovered **evidence of organic compounds** in a **Martian crater**.
2. This providing insights into the **potential habitability** of Mars.
3. It reveals a more **complex organic geochemical cycle** on Mars than previously thought.
4. It is also indicating the **presence of multiple reservoirs** of the potential organic molecules on the planet.
5. The findings suggest that Mars has experienced **aqueous processes** and that water may have played a significant role in the existence of organic matter.

- The **research team** used an instrument called the Scanning Habitable Environments with Raman and Luminescence for Organics and Chemicals (**SHERLOC**) to detect the organic compounds.



Phosphorus Discovered on Enceladus

- Researchers have discovered the **presence of phosphorus in icy grains** emanating from **Saturn's moon**.
- The new discovery made **Enceladus - sixth largest** among **Saturn's 146 known natural satellites**.
- Previous studies had spotted signs of the other **five elements** needed for **life— carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur**.
- The discovery of phosphorus on Enceladus suggests that this moon **possesses the necessary building blocks for life**.



5. Phosphorus is an **integral part of life on Earth.**
6. It's the **second most abundant mineral** in the human body, behind calcium and it is key to **forming bones, teeth, cell membranes and DNA.**
7. NASA's **Cassini space probe**, which has been studying Saturn and its moons for **13 years**, has made a significant discovery.

Carbon-dioxide Auroras

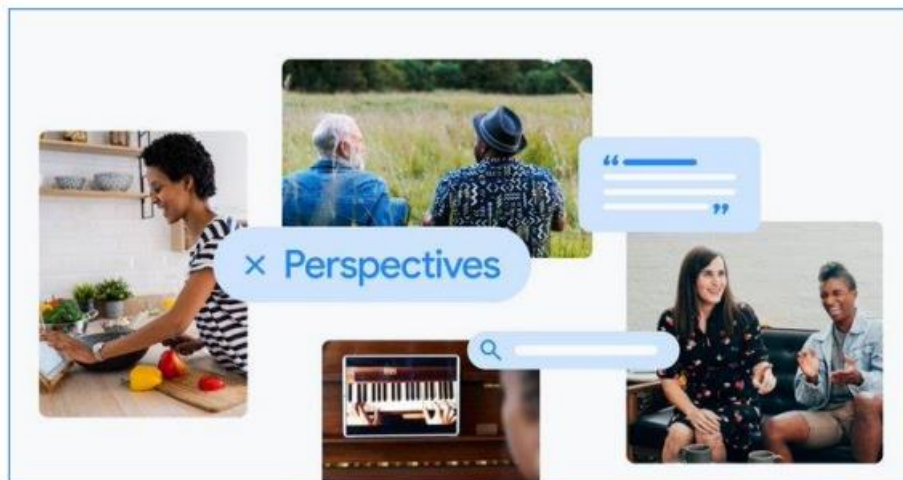


1. NASA's satellite spots **infrared carbon dioxide** aurora from outer space.
2. An aurora is a **natural light display** those shimmers in the sky.
3. When **charged particles** crash into the **planet's atmosphere**, they interact with **many different atoms and molecules.**
4. Carbon dioxide is one of them.
5. When carbon dioxide molecules about **90 kilometres above Earth** become **excited during an aurora**, they emit **infrared radiation.**

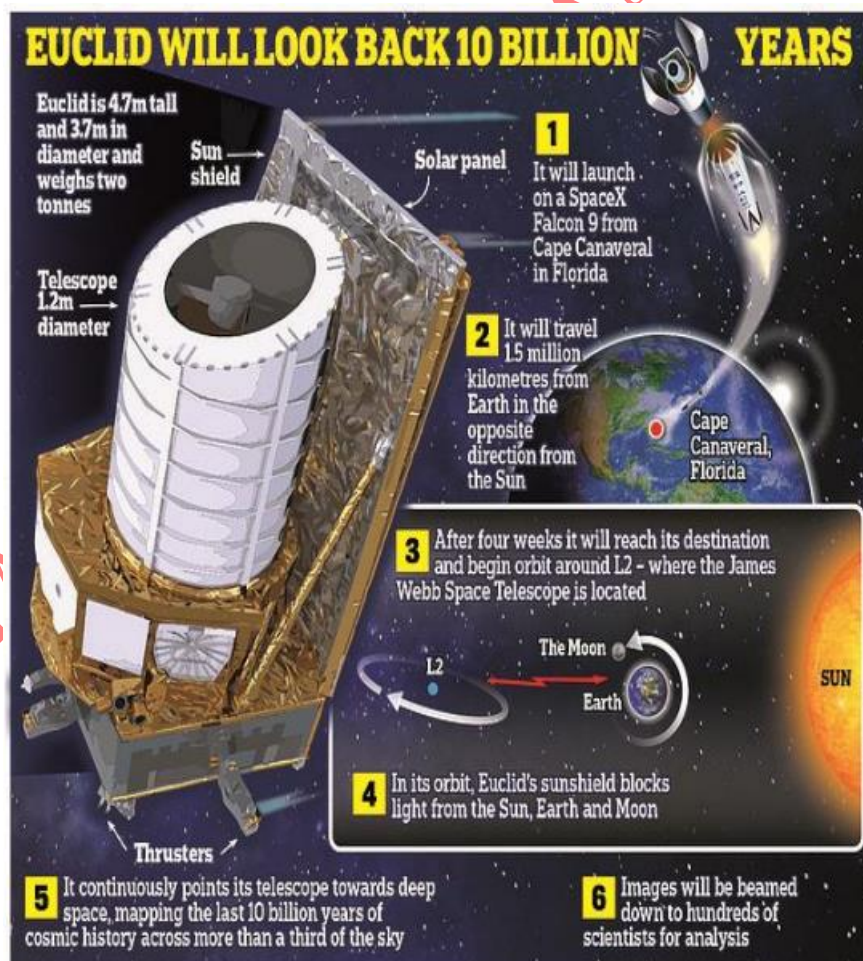
Google's 'Perspectives' Search

1. Google has recently launched a **new search feature called Perspectives.**
2. It is aiming to provide users with a **broader range of viewpoints on various topics.**
3. It encompasses a wide range of content types, including long- and short-form videos, images, and written posts.

4. These materials are sourced from discussion boards, Q&A sites, and popular social media platforms.



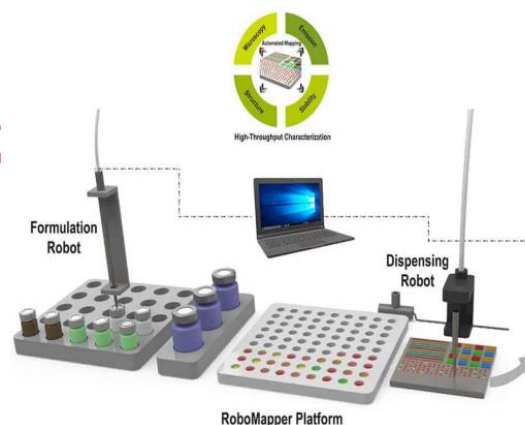
Euclid Space Telescope



1. The **European Space Agency** plans to survey billions of galaxies using the Euclid Space Telescope.
2. The new Euclid space telescope was launched on a **SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket**.
3. Euclid is a visible to **near-infrared space telescope** developed by the European Space Agency (ESA) and the Euclid Consortium.
4. This mission aims to better **understand dark energy and dark matter** by accurately measuring the acceleration of the universe.

RoboMapper

1. Researchers have successfully created a robot called RoboMapper.
2. It is capable of conducting experiments **to develop new semiconductor materials** efficiently and sustainably.
3. It takes a different approach by **automating the process and miniaturizing the material samples** using modern printing techniques.
4. The robot has been found to be **nearly 10 times faster** than previous automated techniques.
5. The process also **reduced greenhouse gas emissions** of the characterisation process by 10 times.



PSLV-C56

1. **ISRO** successfully launched the PSLV-C56 carrying **Singapore's DS-SAR satellite and six other satellites**.
2. The **DS-SAR satellite** is developed under a partnership between DSTA (representing the Government of Singapore) and ST Engineering.

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

3. The co-passengers on the missions are **VELOX-AM, ARCADE, SCOOB-II, NuLiON, Galassia-2 and ORB-12 STRIDER.**
4. This is the **58th flight of PSLV** and **17th of PSLV** in core alone configuration.



Jupiter 3

1. **SpaceX** launched **Hughes Network Systems'** Jupiter 3 satellite.

A promotional poster for the Hughes JUPITER 3 Next Generation Ultra High Density Satellite. The poster features a large image of the satellite in space. Text on the poster includes 'Hughes JUPITER™ 3 Next Generation Ultra High Density Satellite', 'Launching a new era of connectivity.', 'JUPITER 3 Quick Facts', 'JUPITER Fleet', and 'JUPITER 3 Gateways'. The poster also includes the Hughes logo and copyright information.

Hughes JUPITER™ 3 Next Generation Ultra High Density Satellite
Launching a new era of connectivity.

JUPITER 3 Quick Facts

- Spectrum: Ka-band, Q- and V-band for gateways
- Coverage: North & South America
- Speed: Up to 100 Mbps
- Capacity: More than 500 Gbps
- Stowed Size: 26 feet long
- Deployed Size: Solar arrays span 127 feet
- Solar Arrays: 14 total
- Position: 95° West longitude
- Distance: 22,300 miles above the equator
- Manufacturer: Maxar
- Launcher: SpaceX
- Service sectors: Consumer, small business, enterprise, government, service providers and aeronautical and maritime mobility
- Spot beams: 300. Each beam carries 500 MHz or more, providing more than 1 Gbps to the VSAT users in each cell allowing faster service plans of up to 100 Mbps.

JUPITER 3 Gateways

- Active Gateways: 18
- Diverse Gateways for Service Continuity: 2
- Each gateway transmits 11 GHz of V-band and Ka band and receives 4 GHz in Q band.

JUPITER Fleet

- JUPITER fleet total capacity: More than 1 Tbps
- JUPITER 1 (EchoStar XVII): Launched July 2012 with 120 Gbps capacity
- JUPITER 2 (EchoStar XIX): Launched December 2016 with 200 Gbps capacity
- JUPITER 3 (EchoStar XXIV): Launching 2023 with more than 500 Gbps capacity

Follow along with us on the journey to JUPITER 3.
Visit [hughes.com/JUPITER3](https://www.hughes.com/JUPITER3)

HUGHES
An Echostar Company

©2023 Hughes Network Systems, LLC, an Echostar company.
All rights reserved. JUPITER is a trademark of Hughes Network Systems, LLC.

2. It is designed to **modernize an old-school approach** to space-based internet access.
3. The **nine-tone and a bus sized satellite** Jupiter 3, also called **EchoStar XXIV**.
4. It is the **largest commercial communications** satellite ever built.

ECONOMY

Greedflation

1. Greedflation is currently on the **rise in the United States** and is one of the primary reasons why prices are being driven up in the country.
2. Greedflation, in basic terms, is **the inflation and hike in prices not driven by economic flow**, but by corporate greed.
3. It has **not taken a headway in India**.
4. But foreign companies in the nation continue to jack up the prices to gouge the customer for more profits.

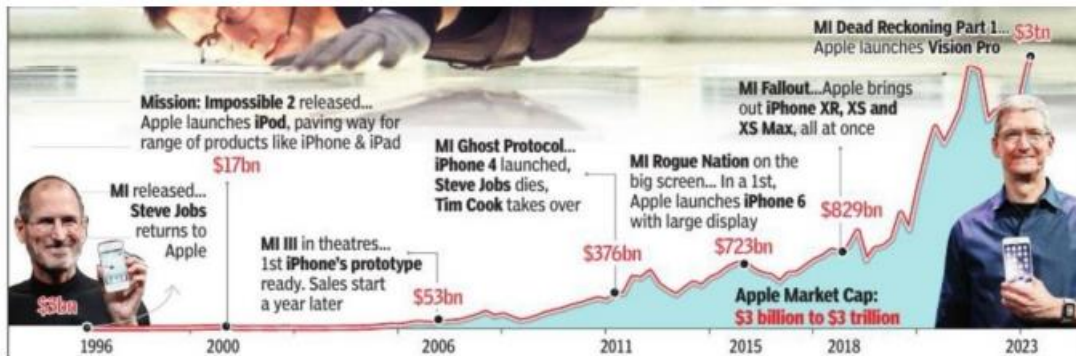
GST rate changes

1. The Union Finance Ministry recently announced a reduction in the Goods and Services Tax (GST) for **electronic items on the sixth anniversary of the GST implementation on July 1**.

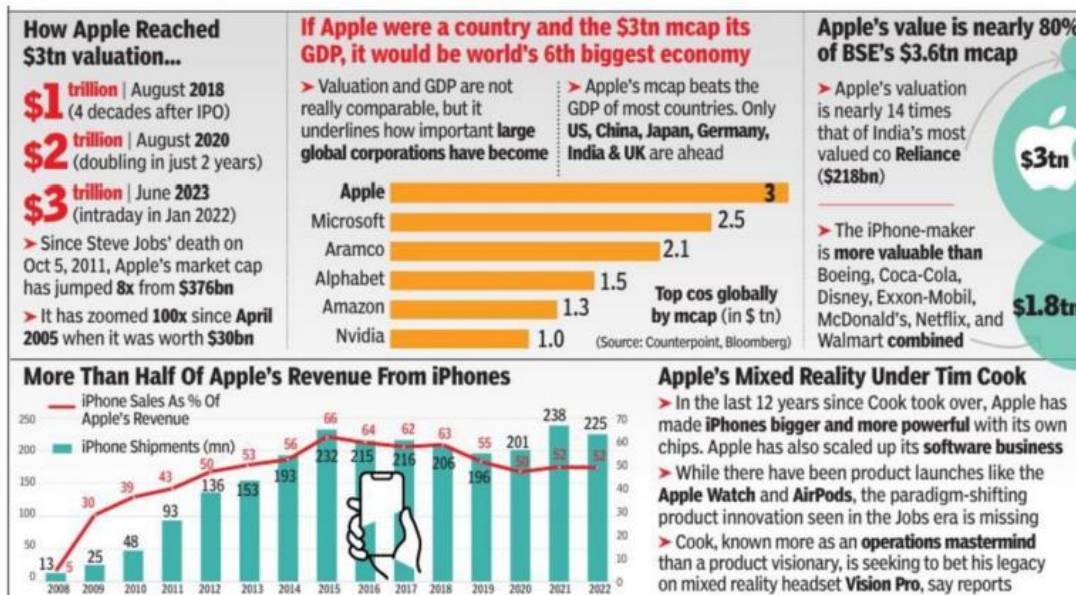
Item	Earlier	Now
TV upto 27 inches	31.3%	18%
Refrigerators	31.3%	18%
Washing machine	31.3%	18%
Mixers, Juicers, Vacuum cleaners,,	31.3%	18%
Fans, coolers, geysers	31.3%	18%
LPG stove	21%	18%
LEDs	15%	12%
Sewing Machine	16%	12%
Static Converter UPS	28%	18%
Kerosene Pressure Lantern	8%	5%
Vacuum flasks, and vacuum Vessels	28%	18%
Mobile Phones	31.3%	12%

Market value of \$3 trillion

1. Apple Inc – created history recently by becoming the **first company in the world to reach a market value of \$3 trillion.**
2. Since then, it first reached **\$1 trillion in value in mid-2018**, and later achieved a **\$2 trillion valuation in August 2020.**



3. **Microsoft Corp** is the only other US stock with a valuation above \$2 trillion.
4. **Apple and Microsoft Corp** led the list of top 20 global companies by market capitalization at the end of June.



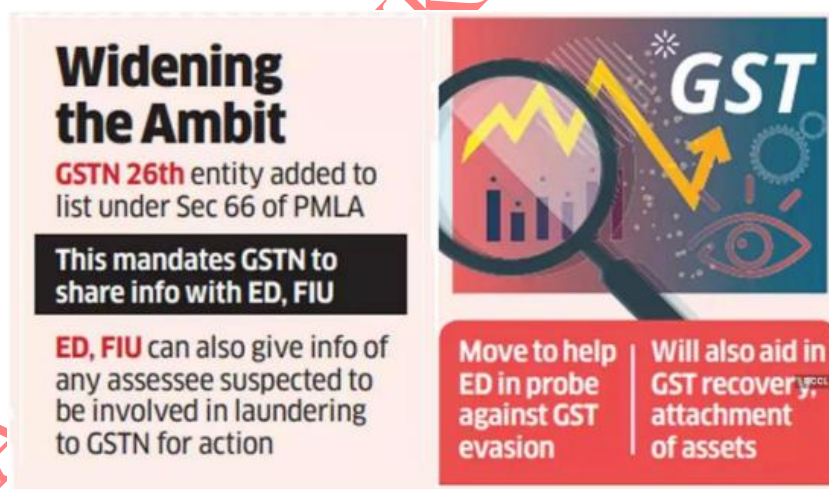
Centralized Information Management System

1. RBI has upgraded its **information management framework** with the introduction of the Centralised Information Management System (CIMS).

2. It will handle the massive data flow, aggregation, analysis, public dissemination and data governance.
3. This system uses **state-of-the-art technology** to manage big data and will serve as a platform.

GSTN under PMLA








1. The Indian government amended provisions of the money laundering Act to allow the **Enforcement Directorate to share information with GST Network**.
2. As per **the amendment** to the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), **2002**, GST Network has been **included in the list** of entities with which the Enforcement Directorate will share information.
3. The changes have been made for provisions under **Section 66 of the PMLA, which provides for disclosure of information**.
4. This changes comes amid rising cases of GST fraud and fake registrations.



Highlights of the 50th GST Council Meeting

1. The 50th Meeting of the GST Council took place in **New Delhi**.
2. It decided to reduce the GST rate on **uncooked/unfried snack pellets to 5%**.
3. The Council has **exempted IGST on medicines and Food for Special Medical Purposes (FSMP)** when imported for personal use.

4. **Casinos, horse racing and online gaming** will be taxed at a uniform rate of **28%**.
5. **Food and beverages sold at the cinemas** to get covered under 'restaurant service', liable to **5% GST**.
6. **Fish soluble paste** reduced from **18% to 5%**.
7. **Imitation Zari threads/yarn** reduced from **12% to 5%**.

Know the Key Highlights of the 50th GST Council Meeting		
 Cancer related drugs to be exempted from GST	 Reduction of GST Rates on certain items	 Reduction of GST Rates on food served in cinema halls
 Levy of GST on online games	 GST exemption on satellite launching services	 Taxability of services by the director of the company
 Continuation of Relaxations in Form GSTR-9 & GSTR-9C		

Trade in Indian rupee



1. **Bangladesh and India** launched a much-anticipated trade transaction in rupees.
2. This move is aimed at **reducing dependence on the US dollar** and strengthening regional currency and trade.

3. This is the **first time Bangladesh has done bilateral trade** with a foreign country in addition to the US dollar.
4. Earlier **India and Malaysia** have agreed to settle trade in the Indian rupees.

UPI with Instant Payment of UAE



1. During Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the UAE, India and the UAE agreed to **facilitate trade settlement** in their **respective currencies and integrate their fast payment systems**.

India's gross domestic growth projection

1. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) - raised India's gross domestic growth projection for 2023-24.
2. The World Economic Outlook (WEO), the IMF has projected a growth rate of **6.1% in 2023, a 0.2% point upward revision** compared with the April projection.
3. In April, the IMF had cut India's GDP growth forecast for **2023-24 to 5.9% from 6.1%**, citing heightened global uncertainty.
4. The latest update to the WEO retained the GDP growth forecast for **2024-25 at 6.3%**.
5. The IMF's projection is **lower than the Reserve Bank of India's** estimate of 6.5%.
6. The **World Bank** estimates growth at **6.3%** and the **Asian Development Bank** at **6.4%**.

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

7. The forecast for **China is unchanged at 5. 2% for 2023 and 4. 5% for 2024**, while the **global growth will slow down from last year's 3. 5% to 3% this year and the next.**

Leading The Pack

GROWTH PROJECTION (%)

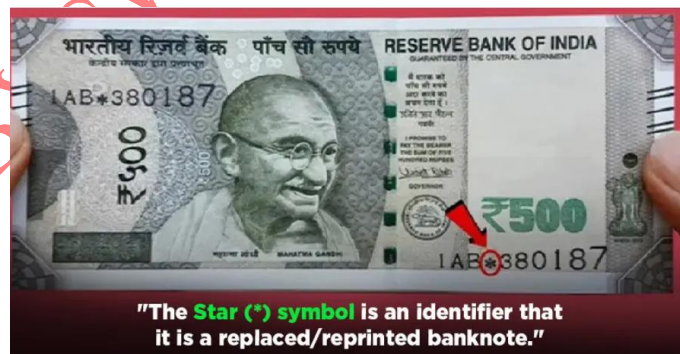
	2023	2024
World	3.0	3.0
US	1.8	1.0
Euro area	0.9	1.5
UK	0.4	1.0
China	5.2	4.5
India*	6.1	6.3
Brazil	2.1	1.2
South Africa	0.3	1.7

India retains fastest growing major economy tag

*Data for FY24, FY25, Source: IMF

Other Legal Banknotes

1. Banknotes with a **Star (*) symbol identical** to any other legal banknotes.
2. The '**Star Series**' banknotes are a legitimate category of banknotes used by RBI to replace defectively printed ones.
3. The Star symbol is added to identify banknotes used as replacements for defectively printed ones in a packet of **100 serially numbered banknotes.**



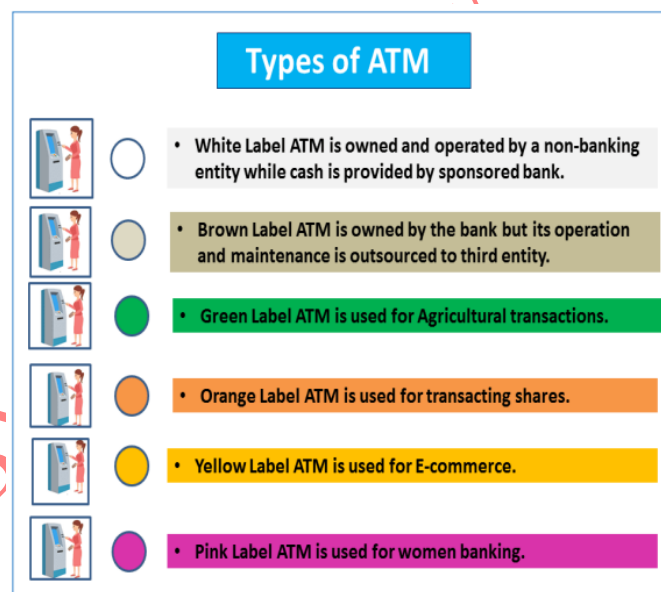
SBI Ecowrap report

1. State Bank of India's Economic Research Department's report, SBI Ecowrap, said that India is likely to get the tag of the world's third largest economy by FY28.

2. India should surpass both Japan and Germany in 2027 at the current rate of growth.
3. India is likely to add \$0.75 trillion in every 2 years.
4. Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh will break the \$500 billion mark in 2027 (or FY28).



White Label ATMs



1. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has granted permission to non-bank entities to establish, own, and operate White Label ATMs (WLAs) nationwide.
2. This move is aimed at enhancing banking services reach, especially in smaller towns and rural areas, and promoting financial inclusion.
3. WLAs are ATMs set up, owned and operated by non-banks

4. Non-bank ATM operators are authorised under the Payment & Settlement Systems Act, 2007 by the RBI.
5. They provide banking services to customers using debit/credit/prepaid cards issued by banks.
6. WLAs also offer services like account information, cash deposit, bill payment, mini statements, PIN change, and cheque book requests.

ENVIRONMENT

Hasarius Mumbai

1. This new species of **Jumping spider** was discovered in the rocks lying near natural, seasonal streams at the **Bombay Natural History Society's (BNHS) conservation education centre (CEC) in Goregaon East.**
2. The above-mentioned centre is one of the **few oldest and mixed moist deciduous forests in India.**
3. The place shares its boundaries with the biodiverse landscapes of Sanjay Gandhi National Park (SGNP) and Film City in Aarey Milk Colony (AMC) of Mumbai.



Diversity for Restoration (D4R) tool

1. Diversity for Restoration (D4R) tool is devised by **Bioversity International.**
2. The online tool precisely **aims to help better decision-making** and bring the **best outcome for those plantation programmes.**
3. It could improve **socio-ecological perspectives** and help stakeholders in decision.

4. The tool has information about **100 plant functional traits** that have been considered to offer the **best possible solution**.
5. The tool informs the user whether the tree species offers **timber, fruit, manure** or other commercial benefits.
6. The tool is already being used in countries such as **Malaysia, Ethiopia, Columbia, Peru, Burkina Faso, Cameroon etc.**



Animal Discoveries - New Species and New Records 2023

1. India added **664 animal species** to its faunal database in the year 2022.
2. These comprise **467 new species and 197 species** found in India for the first time.
3. The country also added 339 new plant taxa – 186 taxa that are new to science and 153 taxa as new distributional records from the country in 2022.
4. In **2022**, the maximum (**82 new discoveries**) were recorded from **Kerala**.
5. **Karnataka** is followed with **64 new species** and **24 new records** accounting for **13.2%**.
6. **Tamil Nadu** saw **71 new discoveries** and **13 new records** contributing to **12.6%** of all the new discoveries and new records in the country.

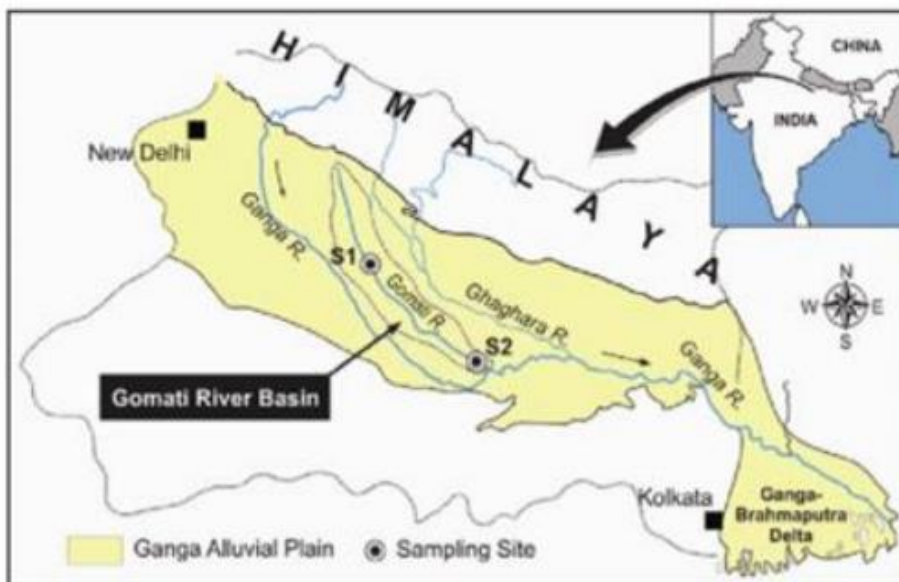


Gambusia Fish

1. The **Andhra Pradesh government** has released approximately **10 million Gambusia fish** into the state's water bodies.
2. This move **aims to combat mosquito-borne diseases like malaria and dengue.**
3. **The fish is also known as mosquitofish.**
4. It is widely used as a **biological agent** for controlling mosquito larvae.
5. Andhra Pradesh reported approximately 6,391 dengue cases and 2,022 malaria cases in 2022.

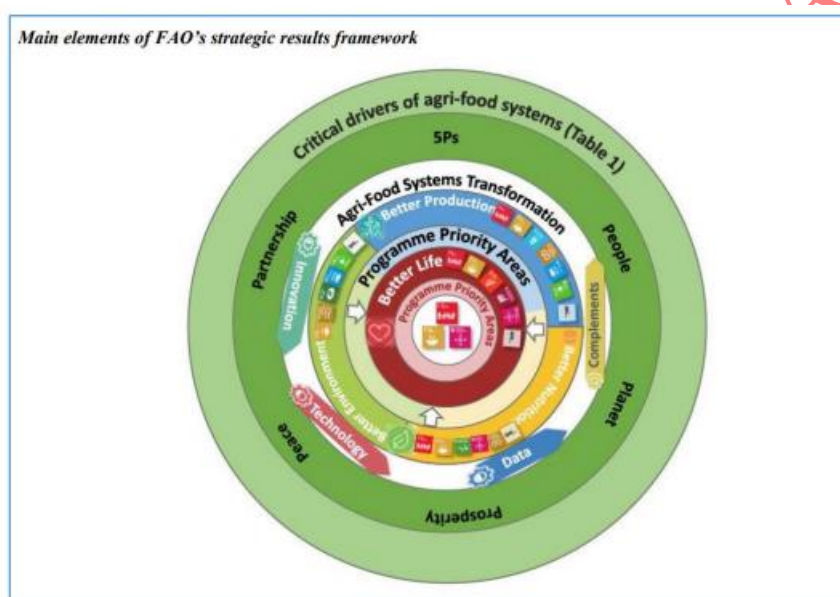


Gomti River “non perennial river”



1. **Uttar Pradesh government** declaring the Gomti as a “non-perennial river” in 2020.

2. It is designed to support the implementation of its ambitious Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031.
3. It envisages **agrifood systems** as **sustainable, inclusive, resilient and adaptive** to climate change.
4. The Action Plan is based on **three pillars**:
 - Advocacy at global and regional levels;
 - Policy support at the country level;
 - The scaling-up of climate action on the ground with local actors and vulnerable population.

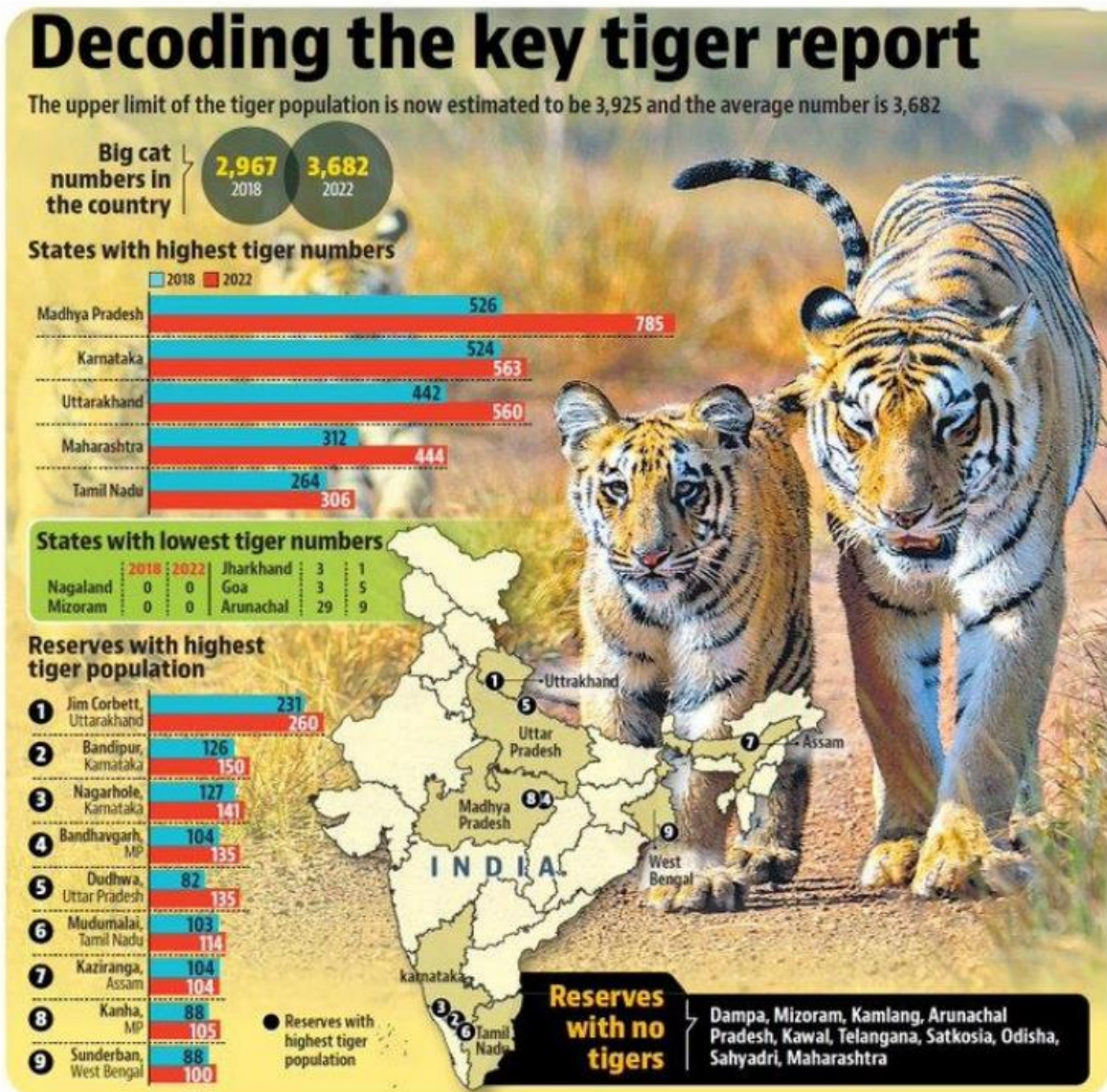


Tiger Population of India in 2023

1. India's tiger population increased to **3,682 in 2022**, up from **2,967 in 2018**.
2. India recorded a **23.5% increase** in tiger population between **2018 and 2022**.
3. The country accounting for **75% of the tigers** in the world.
4. Around **80% of the tigers** (2,885) now reside in eight of the 18 tiger states.
5. The reserves with the **maximum number of tigers** were at the **Corbett National Park in Uttarakhand**, which reported 260 animals.

- 6. It is followed by **Bandipur (150)**, and **Nagarhole (141)**, both in Karnataka.
- 7. Globally, the number of tigers increased from **3,890** in 2016 to **5,575** in 2023.
- 8. India's tigers are largely concentrated in **53** dedicated tiger reserves spread across **75,796** square km, spanning about **2.3%** of India's total land area.

DEMY



SHIK

Asian Kabaddi Championship 2023

1. The Asian Kabaddi Championship 2023 featured **six nations: India, Iran, the Republic of Korea, Japan, Chinese Taipei, and Hong Kong.**
2. The **Indian men's kabaddi team won the title by beating Iran** in the final.
3. It was the **Indian men's kabaddi team's eighth** Asian Kabaddi Championship crown in nine editions.



Caribbean Premier League

1. Young spin bowler **Shreyanka Patil** has made history by becoming the **first Indian cricketer** to be signed for the **Women's Caribbean Premier League (WCPL)**.



AFF Championship 2023 Final

1. The **Indian men's football team** emerged victorious in a thrilling penalty shootout **against Kuwait 5-4** in a thrilling penalty shootout, securing the SAFF Championship 2023 title.
2. Ranked 100th in the latest FIFA rankings, India triumphed in their **ninth SAFF Championship out of 14 editions.**
3. This victory marked their **second consecutive triumph** after winning the Intercontinental Cup the previous month.



World Archery Youth Championships

1. India's **Priyansh** - became the **under-21** world champion in compound archery in the ongoing World Archery Youth Championships in **Limerick, Ireland.**



2. This is the first time that two individual players won medals at one edition of the World Archery Youth Championships.
3. **Aditi Swami**, another compound archer, was crowned the **U18 world champion.**

Canada Open 2023

1. Indian Badminton player **Lakshya Sen** - defeated China's All England champion Li Shi Feng in straight sets to **clinch the men's singles title at the Canada Open 2023 in Calgary.**
2. The victory marks Lakshya's **second BWF World Tour Super 500 title**, having already won the India Open in January 2022.



Youth World Championships

1. **India's Parth Salunkhe** - became the **first male archer to win a gold** in the recurve category at the Youth World Championships.
2. With this gold medal, **India finished the Championships with their highest-ever tally of 11 medals.**
3. India finished with **six gold, one silver and four bronze medals**, which was highest in the standings in terms of **total number of medals.**



Provisional suspensions

1. **Tamil Nadu's Archana Suseendran and Haryana's Anjali Devi** - have been handed provisional suspensions by the **National Anti-Doping Agency (Nada)** for **failing the drug test**.
2. Both have been dropped from the country's contingent for the **Asian athletics championships**, scheduled to begin from **July 12 in Bangkok**.
3. Recently, **Archana had defeated Hima Das** in the 100m final and clinched a **double gold in the 200m** in the **Indian Grand Prix 2**.
4. **Quartermiler Anjali** was expected to lead the country's charge in **4x400m relay** at the upcoming **Asian Games in Hangzhou**.



National Women's chess title

1. **PSPB's IM Padmini Rout** - beat Maharashtra's 17-year-old defending champion IM Diyya Deshmukh to regain the **49th National Women's chess title in Ahmedabad**.
2. Padmini had won **five National Women's title**, equaling the record held by WIM's Rohini Khadilkar, Bhagyashree Thipsay and Anupama Gokhale.



SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

Wimbledon 2023 Men's Final

1. **Carlos Alcaraz** beat **four-time defending champion Novak Djokovic** of Serbia to win maiden title at The Championships.
2. Alcaraz is just **the third Spanish man** after Manuel Santana (1966) and Rafael Nadal (2008, 2010) to win Wimbledon.



Fastest Badminton Hit

1. **Satwiksairaj Rankireddy** made history by establishing a **Guinness world record for the fastest hit of 565 km/h in badminton** by a male player.



ISSF Shotgun World Cup Lonato 2023

1. **Indian shooter Prithviraj Tondaiman** bagged the **bronze medal** in the **men's trap** event at the ISSF Shotgun World Cup Lonato 2023 in **Italy**.

138 | Page

Website: www.shikshabyswathikaiiasacademy.com / Follow insta : [tnpsc.shikshabyswathika/](https://www.instagram.com/tnpsc.shikshabyswathika/)

Phone : 8608830102/ 9047051911 / E-Mail : shikshabyswathika@gmail.com /

You tube : [Shiksha By Swathika – An IAS Academy/](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCShikshaBySwathika) Facebook : [Shiksha By Swathika](https://www.facebook.com/ShikshaBySwathika)

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

Asian athletics championships 2023



1. India recorded a fine show at the **2023 Asian Athletics Championships** over the last five days to finish with **27 medals - six gold, 12 silver and 9 bronze.**
2. **Japan** finished on **top with 37 medals**, including **16 gold medals.**
3. **China** finished **second with 22 medals**, including **8 gold medals.**
4. **India** was **third place**, ahead of **Sri Lanka at 4th.**
5. **Jyothi Yarraji and Parul Chaudhary** won medals in two events.

Satwiksairaj - Guinness World Record

1. India's **Satwiksairaj Rankireddy** broke a decade-old Guinness world record for the **fastest shot ever in badminton with an astonishing 565 km/hour smash.**

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

2. The speed greatly exceeded the **previous world record of 493 km/hour** which was achieved by **Malaysian badminton player Tan Boon Heong**.
3. The **women's record stands of 438 km/hour** belongs to Malaysia's Pearly Tan.
4. The fastest speed recorded by a **Formula 1 car is 397.48 km/hour**.

Sport	Fastest speeds
Fastest badminton smash	565 kmph (351.1 mph)
Fastest F1 car speed	397.483 kmph (247.0 mph)
Fastest golf drive	349.38 kmph (217.1 mph)
Fastest tennis serve	263 kmph (163.4 mph)
Fastest ice hockey shot	177.5 kmph (110.3 mph)
Fastest baseball pitch	170.3 kmph (105.8 mph)
Fastest football shot	129 kmph (80.2 mph)
Fastest table tennis smash	116 kmph (72.1 mph)

ISSF World Championship Juniors

1. The pair of **Abhinav Shaw and Gautami Bhanot** - won the 10m air rifle mixed team gold on day two of the ISSF World Championship Juniors in Changwon, Korea.



2. This was India's third gold of the competition.
3. This took the country to second position in the medals tally, with a silver and two bronze medals.

Virat Kohli 500 international Match

1. Indian cricketing stalwart **Virat Kohli** became **only the 10th cricketer** to make **500 international appearances**.

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

2. Kohli is the **fourth Indian** to join this exclusive list, with the other three.
3. Kohli also became **the fifth-highest run-scorer in international cricket.**
4. He became the first player to have scored a half-century in his 500th international game.



2023 Open golf Championship

1. Shubhankar Sharma **records best finish** by an Indian in The 2023 Open golf Championship.
2. Shubhankar Sharma accomplished a remarkable feat, clinching the best-ever result by an Indian golfer at the **Royal Liverpool Golf Club in Merseyside, England.**



Handball Association of India

1. The **Union Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports** has decided to recognise Handball Association of India (HAI) as a **National Sports Federation (NSF).**

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

BCCI umpiring panel



1. The **Indore-based Buley sisters, Nidhi and Ritika Buley**, are among the **four retired female cricketers** who have made their way into the BCCI umpires' panel with a distinction.

Malaysia seamer Syazrul Idrus

1. Malaysia seamer Syazrul Idrus - became the **first male cricketer** to take **seven wickets** in a T20 International.
2. Idrus' astonishing figures of 7 wickets for 8 runs, the best bowling figures in a men's T20I, helped Malaysia record an 8-wicket victory over China.



ISSF Junior World Championship

1. India secured the second position in the third edition of the ISSF Junior World Championship held in South Korea in 2023, from July 16 to 24.

2. India's impressive performance led to a total of **17 medals**, including **six gold**, six silver, and five bronze at the ISSF Junior World Championships 2023.
3. Remarkably, **seven** Indian shooters managed to secure more than one medal during the competition.

Top 10 countries with the highest number of medals

Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	China	12	9	7	28
2	India	6	6	5	17
3	Ukraine	5	3	2	10
4	Kazakhstan	4	4	2	10
5	Italy	4	3	4	11
6	USA	4	1	8	13
7	Korea	3	6	8	17
8	France	2	2	1	5
8	Switzerland	2	2	1	5
10	Norway	2	1	3	6

Junior Asian Judo Championships 2023



1. Tripura's Asmita Dey wins **gold** at Junior Asian Judo Championships 2023.
2. **Asmita Dey from Tripura** clinches the gold medal at the Junior Asian Judo Championships 2023, which took place in **Macau, China**.
3. Asmita Dey took part in the Junior Asian Judo Championships 2023 in the **48 kg category**, facing competitors from 27 diverse countries, including Korea, Bhutan, Iraq, America, and many more.

AWARDS AND EVENTS

AI Fozan International Prize

1. Five young scientists from **Argentina, Cameroon, China, Egypt and Serbia** have received the prestigious UNESCO-AI Fozan International Prize.
2. This is awarded for the **Promotion of Young Scientists in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)**.

Elizabeth Longford Prize 2023

1. Historian and writer **Ramchandra Guha's** book '**Rebels Against the Raj: Western Fighters for India's Freedom**' has won the Elizabeth Longford Prize for Historical Biography 2023.
2. The books, **Gandhi Before India (2013), Gandhi: The Years That Changed the World (2018) and India after Gandhi (2007)**, are written by him.
3. The American Historical Association (AHA) has conferred its **Honorary Foreign Member prize for the year 2019** on Ramchandra Guha.
4. The Government of India honoured him with the Padma Bhushan award in 2009.

PEN Pinter Prize 2023



1. British children's writer and performance **poet Michael Rosen** - has been awarded the prestigious PEN Pinter Prize 2023.
2. The **77-year-old Rosen** served as the sixth British Children's Laureate between 2007 and 2009.

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

3. Rosen's first book of children's poems, **Mind Your Own Business**, came out in 1974.

2023 List of Great Immigrants

1. **Ajay Banga**, the President of the World Bank, has been recognised on the Carnegie Corporation of New York's annual "Great Immigrants" list.



Elephant Family environmental award



1. **King Charles III and Queen Camilla of Britain** - presented the prestigious Elephant Family environmental award to **Indian conservationists** at a ceremony.
2. **Filmmaker Kartiki Gonsalves**, known for the Oscar-winning documentary 'The Elephant Whisperers,' received the **Tara Award**.
3. The **Real Elephant Collective (TREC)**, consisting of **70 Adivasi** artists, was also honoured.

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

4. **TREC** was awarded the **Mark Shand Award** for their meticulous work in creating the **CoExistence Herd**, a collection of sculptural representations of wild elephants.

Points of Light Award

1. UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak honoured **101 year old Rajindar Singh Dhatt** with a Points of Light award at UK-India Week reception at 10 Downing Street.



The Philippe Chatrier Award

1. The **International Tennis Federation** has awarded **Justine Henin of Belgium** its highest honour, the Philippe Chatrier Award.
2. Henin won **seven Grand Slam singles titles**, an **Olympic gold medal**, and was part of Belgium's team that won the **Fed Cup in 2001**.
3. It recognizes people who have made **significant contributions to the sport on and off the court**.



AIFF Men’s Footballer of the Year award – 2022-23

1. Indian football team midfielder **Lallianzuala Chhangte** was named the **AIFF Men’s Footballer of the Year for 2022-23** while **Manisha Kalyan** won her **second consecutive Women’s Footballer of the Year** award.



Timely payments Awards

1. **NLC India Limited** has bagged the ‘Timely payments (CPSEs)’ award for the year 2023 for its contribution in improving the **reliability of e-market practices**.

Lambani Art



1. Women of the **nomadic Lambani community of Hampi in Karnataka** have set a **new Guinness World Record** for producing the **highest number of embroidery patches**.
2. Lambani embroidery is a **vibrant and intricate form** of textile embellishment characterised by **colourful threads, mirror work, and a rich array of stitch patterns**.

International Biology Olympiad

1. India topped the International Biology Olympiad medal tally for the first time with an all-gold performance at the 34th edition of the competition held in Al Ain, UAE.
2. International Science Olympiads are annual competitions in various areas of the formal sciences, natural sciences, and social sciences.



Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres (Order of Arts and Letters) award



1. The **French government** - has selected **Indian classical vocalist Padma Shri Aruna Sairam** and **flutist Shashank Subramanyam** for the prestigious Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres (Order of Arts and Letters) award.

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

2. The award is conferred for being instrumental in **connecting France and India through their music.**

UK PM's Points of Light award

1. A **seven-year-old girl of Indian origin Moksha Roy** has received the British Prime Minister's Points of Light award for her outstanding efforts in helping the environment.



Rising Global Superstar Of Indian Cinema Award

1. **Bollywood actor Kartik Aaryan** will be honoured with the Rising Global Superstar of Indian Cinema award at the annual awards Gala night of the **14th Indian Film Festival of Melbourne.**
2. The award will be presented by the **Governor of Victoria**, recognising Kartik's remarkable achievements and his significant impact on the world of Indian cinema.



SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

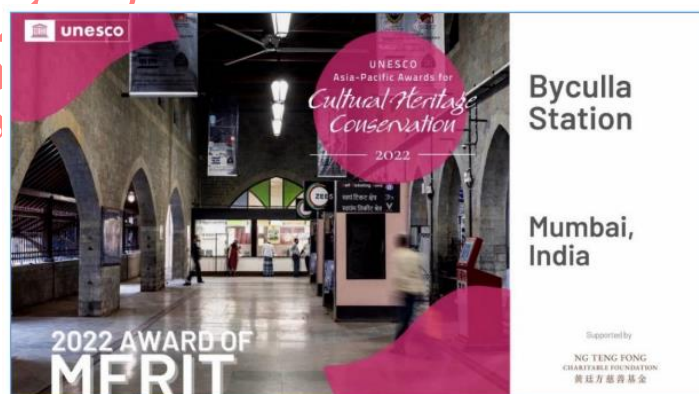
Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour

1. **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** - is conferred with the **Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour** by French President Macron.
2. PM Modi is the **first Indian PM** to receive **France's highest civilian & military honour**.
3. The Legion of Honour is the **highest French decoration** given to the most deserving citizens in all fields of activity.
4. The PM was awarded the **fifth honour- Grand Cross** – which has a **red ribbon and the badge** features a **five-armed Maltese asterisk on an oak and laurel wreath**.



UNESCO's Asia Pacific Cultural Heritage award



1. **Mumbai's Byculla Railway Station** received UNESCO's Asia Pacific Cultural Heritage Award on Monday i.e. 24th July, which was declared in November 2022.

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

2. The 169-year-old Byculla railway station in Mumbai is one of the oldest living railway stations in India.
3. The station's history is intrinsically tied to the arrival of the first locomotive in Mumbai in 1852.

Miles Franklin Literary Award 2023



1. Ten years ago, Sri Lankan-origin Australian writer Shankari Chandran faced difficulty in getting her debut book published.
2. The reason: publishers thought her novel wasn't "Australian" enough to be successful in their local market.
3. And now, Chandran has been announced as the winner of the 2023 Literary Award for her novel 'Chai Time at Cinnamon Gardens'.

PERSONALITIES

Former Kerala CM Oommen Chandy



1. **Former Chief Minister of Kerala Oommen Chandy** has passed away.

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

2. Chandy served as the state's chief minister **from 2011 to 2016, and from 2004 to 2006.**
3. He was the **longest-serving legislator in the Kerala Assembly.**
4. He had represented the **Puthuppally Assembly constituency from 1970 successively** until his death.
5. He is the **only Indian chief minister to achieve award for public service from the United Nations in 2013.**
6. He also served as **general secretary of the All-India Congress Committee for Andhra Pradesh from 2018 until his death.**

Youngest Person To Cross North Channel

1. **Anshuman Jhingran**, an open sea swimmer, achieved the remarkable feat of becoming the youngest person globally to successfully cross the North Channel.



2. His extraordinary accomplishment, completed in just **125 days**, has earned him a coveted spot in the esteemed Guinness World Records.
3. The North Channel, situated between the **northeastern coast of Northern Ireland and the southwestern coast of Scotland**, serves as a strait that starts north of the Isle of Man, marking the end of the Irish Sea.

Phangnon Konyak

1. Phangnon Konyak became the **first woman member from Nagaland to preside over the Rajya Sabha.**

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

2. She is also the **first woman** to be elected to Rajya Sabha from Nagaland (April 2022) and the **second woman from the state to be elected** to either house of the Parliament.

India's 83rd chess Grandmaster

1. **Aditya Samant from Maharashtra** becomes India's 83rd chess Grandmaster.
2. To become a GM, a player has to secure **three GM norms** and **cross the live rating of 2,500 Elo points**.
3. **Telangana's V Prraneeth** had in May become the country's 82nd GM.



Director Sanjay Kumar Mishra's

1. The Supreme Court extended Enforcement Directorate (ED) Director Sanjay Kumar Mishra's **tenure till September 15**.

APPOINTMENTS

Vice chairperson of Rajya Sabha



1. In a historic move, **S Phangnon Konyak**, the lone **Nagaland MP in the Upper House**, has been nominated as one of the vice chairpersons of the Rajya Sabha.

The Solicitor-General of India

1. **Tushar Mehta** has been reappointed as the Solicitor General of India for **three more years**.
2. Solicitor General is the **second most senior law officer** after Attorney General.
3. Mehta has been continuing as Solicitor General since **October 2018**.



REPORTS AND INDICES

QS World University Rankings 2024

1. **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)** is on top of the rankings for the **12th year in a row**.
2. **University of Cambridge** has managed to retain the **second spot**.
3. **University of Oxford** has replaced **Stanford University** on the **third spot**.
4. American universities once again dominated the QS rankings, taking half of the places in the top 20.

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

5. **IIT Bombay** now stands **1st** in the country and **149th** globally, up from last year's 172.

Institute/University	QS Rankings 2024	QS Rankings 2023
IIT Bombay	149	172
IIT Delhi	197	174
IISc Bangalore	225	155
IIT Kharagpur	271	270
IIT Kanpur	278	264
IIT Madras	285	250
IIT Guwahati	364	384
IIT Roorkee	369	369
University of Delhi	407	521-530
Anna University	427	551-560
IIT Indore	454	396
University of Madras	526	541-550
IIT BHU	571	651-700

Energy Transition Index

1. The **World Economic Forum** has recently released the Energy Transition Index.
2. India is at **67th** position in this ranking.
3. **Sweden** is at the top of this list.
4. Top 5 countries include **Denmark, Norway, Finland and Switzerland**.
5. This time a list of 120 countries has been issued.

Rank	Country	ETI score (2014-2023)	2023 ETI score	SP ¹ ('23)	TR ² ('23)
1	Sweden	78.5	78.5	81.0	74.8
2	Denmark	76.1	76.1	73.7	79.8
3	Norway	73.7	73.7	77.3	68.3
4	Finland	72.8	72.8	68.9	78.6
5	Switzerland	72.4	72.4	75.7	67.4
6	Iceland	70.6	70.6	73.9	65.6
7	France	70.6	70.6	73.3	66.5
8	Austria	69.3	69.3	69.2	69.5
9	Netherlands	68.8	68.8	65.7	73.5
10	Estonia	68.2	68.2	74.2	59.2
11	Germany	67.5	67.5	64.6	71.9
12	United States	66.3	66.3	68.4	63.2
13	United Kingdom	66.2	66.2	67.7	64.0
14	Brazil	65.9	65.9	68.9	61.3
15	Portugal	65.8	65.8	66.7	64.5
16	Spain	65.0	65.0	65.1	64.7
17	China	64.9	64.9	65.0	64.8
18	Hungary	64.3	64.3	68.8	57.5
19	Canada	64.2	64.2	66.7	60.3
20	Luxembourg	64.2	64.2	61.5	68.2

UNSG report on impact of armed conflict on children

1. The annual report of UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on **Children and Armed Conflict** was published.
2. The report has dropped **India's name from the list** in view of measures taken by the Government, **specifically in Jammu and Kashmir, to better protect children.**
3. The report includes trends regarding the **impact of armed conflict on children** and information on violations committed.
4. Violations affected **18,890 children (13,469 boys, 4,638 girls, 783 sex unknown)** in **24 situations.**

Global Peace Index

RANK	COUNTRY	SCORE	CHANGE	RANK	COUNTRY	SCORE	CHANGE	RANK	COUNTRY	SCORE	CHANGE
1	Iceland	1.124	↔	29	Poland	1.634	↓ 6	57	Moldova	1.873	↑ 4
2	Denmark	1.31	↑ 1	30	Bulgaria	1.643	↓ 5	58	Chile	1.874	↓ 5
3	Ireland	1.312	↓ 1	31	Romania	1.649	↑ 4	59	The Gambia	1.888	↓ 8
4	New Zealand	1.313	↑ 2	32	Spain	1.649	↔	60	Greece	1.89	↓ 6
5	Austria	1.316	↓ 1	33	Taiwan	1.649	↑ 2	61	Bosnia and Herzegovina	1.892	↓ 4
6	Singapore	1.332	↑ 4	34	Italy	1.662	↓ 2	62	Jordan	1.895	↑ 6
7	Portugal	1.333	↑ 1	35	Kuwait	1.669	↑ 3	63	Zambia	1.898	↓ 4
8	Slovenia	1.334	↓ 4	36	Lithuania	1.671	↓ 2	64	Cyprus	1.904	↑ 1
9	Japan	1.336	↔	37	United Kingdom	1.693	↓ 1	65	Serbia	1.921	↓ 7
10	Switzerland	1.339	↑ 1	38	North Macedonia	1.713	↓ 1	66	Armenia	1.929	↑ 3
11	Canada	1.35	↑ 2	39	Costa Rica	1.731	↑ 2	67	France	1.939	↔
12	Czechia	1.379	↓ 5	40	Albania	1.745	↔	68	Panama	1.942	↓ 8
13	Finland	1.399	↑ 3	41	Vietnam	1.745	↑ 4	69	Paraguay	1.942	↑ 12
14	Croatia	1.45	↑ 1	42	Botswana	1.762	↑ 6	70	Trinidad and Tobago	1.946	↑ 1
15	Germany	1.456	↑ 2	43	South Korea	1.763	↑ 2	71	Kosovo	1.946	↑ 5
16	Netherlands	1.49	↑ 5	44	Mongolia	1.765	↓ 5	72	Liberia	1.946	↑ 8
17	Bhutan	1.496	↓ 5	45	Montenegro	1.772	↑ 5	73	Cambodia	1.947	↓ 1
18	Hungary	1.508	↓ 4	46	Laos	1.779	↑ 3	74	Malawi	1.97	↓ 4
19	Malaysia	1.513	↔	47	Sierra Leone	1.792	↔	75	United Arab Emirates	1.979	↑ 3
20	Belgium	1.523	↑ 4	48	Oman	1.794	↑ 18	76	Kazakhstan	1.98	↑ 21
21	Qatar	1.524	↑ 1	49	Timor-Leste	1.796	↑ 3	77	Jamaica	1.986	↑ 3
22	Australia	1.525	↑ 4	50	Uruguay	1.798	↓ 5	78	Bolivia	2.001	↓ 1
23	Mauritius	1.546	↑ 5	51	Ghana	1.799	↓ 8	79	Nepal	2.006	↓ 5
24	Norway	1.55	↓ 6	52	Senegal	1.827	↑ 4	80	China	2.009	↑ 6
25	Estonia	1.563	↑ 1	53	Indonesia	1.829	↓ 12	81	Tunisia	2.01	↑ 1
26	Slovakia	1.578	↓ 6	54	Argentina	1.837	↑ 10	82	Equatorial Guinea	2.013	↓ 19
27	Latvia	1.582	↑ 3	55	Madagascar	1.846	↔	83	Dominican Republic	2.019	↑ 5
28	Sweden	1.625	↑ 1	56	Namibia	1.859	↑ 6				

1. The 2023 Global Peace Index (GPI) was released by the **Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP).**
2. **79 countries becoming less peaceful and 84 countries becoming more peaceful.**
3. **Iceland** has been declared the **most peaceful country** in the world for the **15th time in succession.**

4. **India** stands at **126 ranks out of 163 countries** in the Global Peace Index.
5. **Afghanistan** is the least peaceful country in the world for the **fifth consecutive year**.

India - Childhood Diabetes and Fatalities

1. India saw the **highest number** of childhood diabetes cases and deaths in **2019** in the world.
2. The study was published in the journal **JAMA Network**.
3. The country also has the highest **disability-adjusted life-years (DALY)**.
4. **One DALY** represents the **loss of the equivalent of one year of full health**, according to the **World Health Organization**.
5. The **largest increase** in cases (**52.06 per cent**) was recorded in children aged **10 to 14 years**.
6. The **smallest increase** (**30.52 per cent**) in those aged between **1 and 4 years**.

TYPE 1 DIABETES: CAUSES & SYMPTOMS

Causes | Genetic, adulterated food, diet changes, pollution and stress

Symptoms | Frequent urination, stomach ache, hunger, dehydration

Prevention

Test pregnant mothers, young people should adopt a healthy diet, exercise and learn to manage stress

Regular testing | Monthly tests advised to prevent complications

Type 1 onset | Early teens

Type 2 onset | Generally around 40

Performance Grading Index

1. **Tamil Nadu** - is ranked among the bottom 10 in learning outcomes in the latest performance grading index (PGI) **2021-22 released by the Union ministry of education**.
2. Overall, Tamil Nadu with 590 of 1,000 points featured in level VII along with Gujarat, Kerala, Maharashtra, Delhi and Puducherry.

3. The State did well in certain categories, scoring
- 66.2 out of 80** under access,
 - 82.7 of 260** under equity
 - 82.7 of 100** under teacher education
 - 41.2 of 240** in learning outcomes
 - 93.5** in infrastructure domain

HIGHS AND LOWS	
TN'S SCORE IN PERFORMANCE GRADING INDEX FOR 2021-22 (within the bracket overall score)	
Learning Outcomes 41.2 (240)	➤ In learning outcomes, TN registered its worst performance as it was ranked among the bottom 10 states. In access, equity and teacher education, the state performed better
Access 66.2 (80)	
Infrastructure and facilities 93.5 (190)	➤ Overall score 590 out of 1000 and ranked in level 7. In level 6, only Punjab and Chandigarh found a place. In the first five levels no state has found a place as states have scored less than 700 in the restructured scoring system
Equity 229.5 (260)	
Governance process 77.6 (130)	➤ Gujarat, Kerala, Maharashtra, Delhi and Puducherry have scored from 581 to 640 and featured in the level 7
Teacher Education 82.7 (100)	

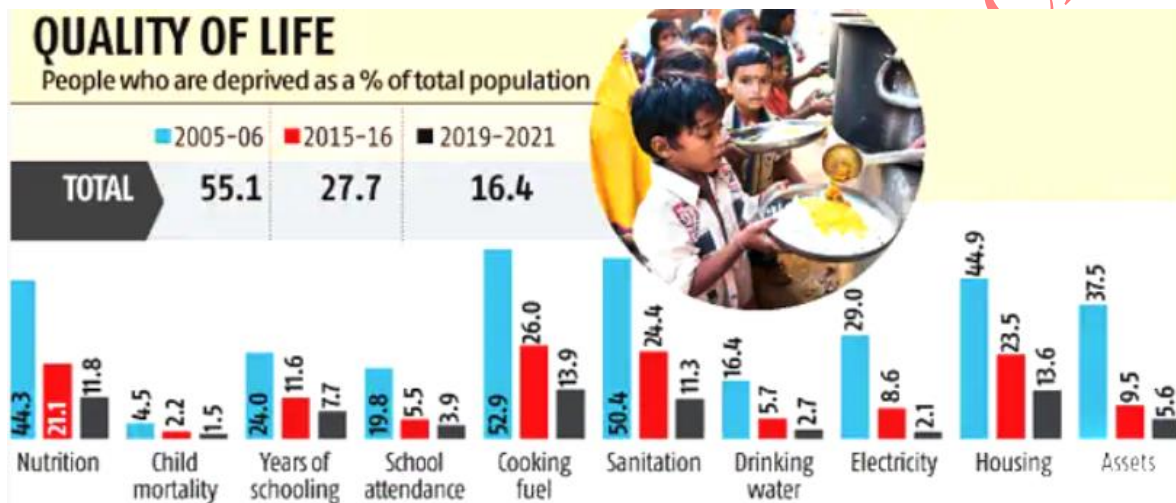
Farmers Distress Index

1. **The Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA)** of ICAR worked on a kind of an early warning system called 'farmers distress index'
2. The main aim behind creating such an index is **to minimise the agrarian distress** in the form of crop loss / failure and income shock.
3. The index will have **values from 0-1**.

Value	Levels of distress
0 – 0.5	Low
0.5 – 0.7	Moderate
Above 0.7	Severe

Multidimensional Poverty Index 2023

1. The latest update of the global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) was released by the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** and the **Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI)**.
2. A total of **415 million people** moved out of poverty in India within **just 15 years** from 2005/2006 to 2019/2021.
3. This number is **declining to about 370 million** in 2015/2016 and 230 million in 2019/2021.



25 NATIONS HALVE GLOBAL MPI VALUES

➤ **India is one of the 25 nations** that have successfully halved their global Multidimensional Poverty Index values within 15 years

➤ **In India, the incidence of poverty fell from 55%** (645 million) in 2005/2006 **to 16%** (230 million) in 2019/2021

➤ People in India who are multi-dimensionally poor and

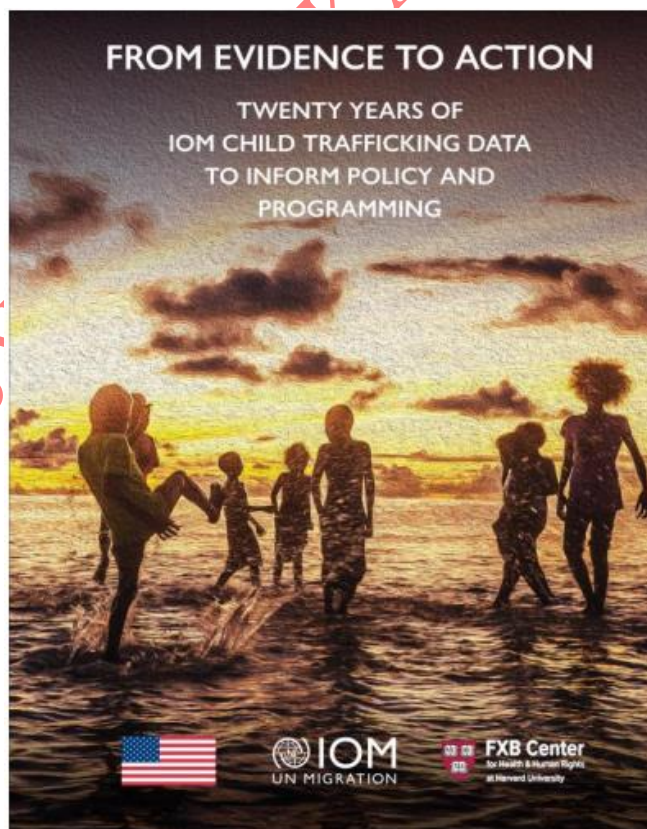
deprived under the **nutrition indicator declined from 44%** in 2005-06 to **12%** in 2019/21

➤ Those who are **poor & deprived of cooking fuel declined from 53% to 14%** & those deprived of sanitation dipped from 50% to 11.3%

➤ In **drinking water**, those deprived fell from 16% to 3% & in **housing** from 44% to 14%

IOM report Child trafficking

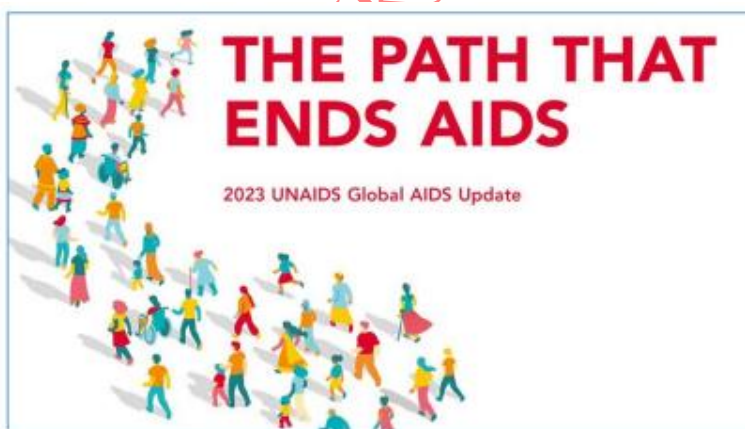
1. The report titled “**From Evidence to Action: Twenty Years of IOM Child Trafficking Data to Inform Policy and Programming**” was recently released.
2. It is a **first of its kind** and is based on **analysis of extensive, globally sourced data**, using the IOM’s Victims of Trafficking Database (VoTD).
3. As per the report, **half of child trafficking** victims are **trafficked within their own country**.
4. Half of the trafficked children, **mostly boys**, are subjected to **forced labor across** various industries like domestic work, begging, and agriculture.
5. **Sexual exploitation**, including through prostitution, pornography, and sexual servitude, is also prominent, affecting **20 per cent of trafficked children, predominantly girls**.
6. It analysed primary data from more than **69,000 victims of trafficking of 156 nationalities, trafficked in 186 countries**.



4. In 2022, **6,30,000** [4,80,000–8,80,000] people died from HIV-related causes.
5. **1.3 million** [1.0–1.7 million] people acquired HIV during the same period.
6. **WHO, the Global Fund and UNAIDS** all have global HIV strategies that are aligned with the **SDG target 3.3** of ending the **HIV epidemic by 2030**.

95:95:95 strategy

- **95%** of all people living with HIV (PLHIV) should have a **diagnosis**,
- **95%** of those should be taking life saving **antiretroviral treatment (ART)** and
- **95% of PLHIV** on treatment should **achieve a suppressed viral load** for the benefit of the person's health and for **reducing onward HIV transmission**.
- In 2022, these percentages were **86(%)** [73→98%], **89(%)** [75→98%] and **93(%)** [79→98%], respectively.



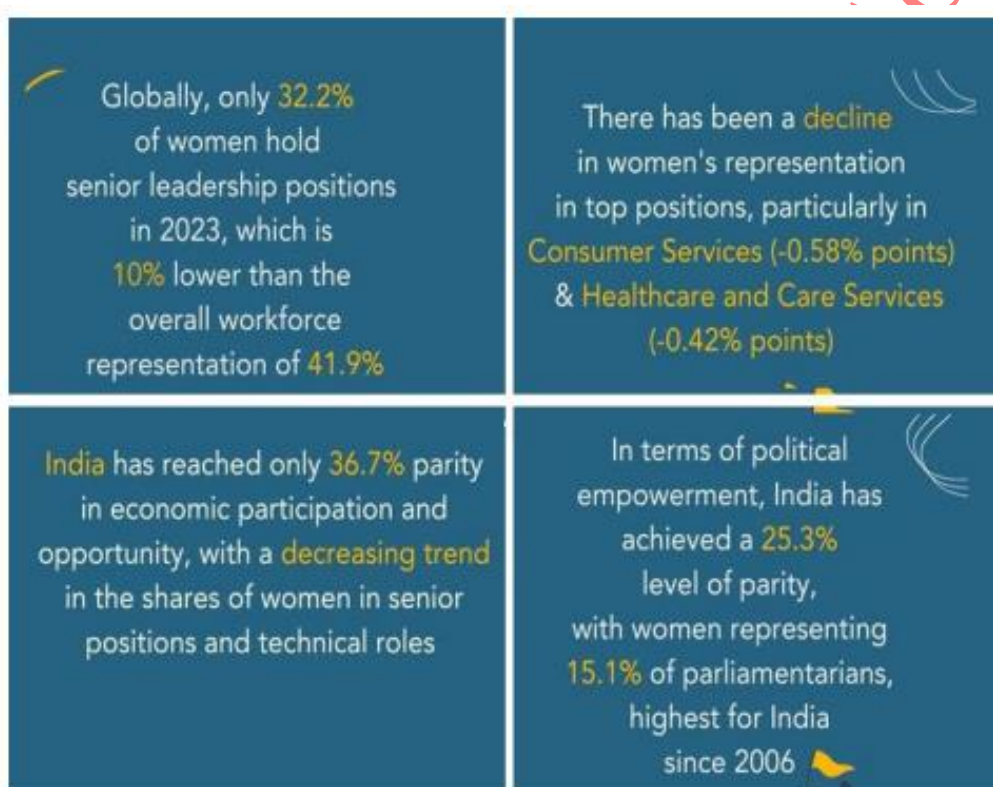
Export Preparedness Index Report

1. **NITI Aayog** is releasing the **third edition of Export Preparedness Index (EPI)** for States/UTs of India for the year **2022**.
2. The report highlights the **need to develop our districts as export hubs** in the country.
3. It undertakes a **district-level analysis** of merchandise exports in the country.

5. Developing countries, including India, which have **attracted FDI in clean energy** to the tune of \$544 billion in 2022.

UN report on Gender parity

1. This is released by **two UN agencies – UN Women and UN Development Programme.**
2. The bodies collated data from **114 countries** and analysed them based on the **twin indices of Women's Empowerment Index (WEI) and the Global Gender Parity Index (GGPI).**



3. On an average, women are empowered to achieve only **60% of their full potential.**
4. They also were found to achieve **28% less than men** across key human development dimensions, as measured by the GGPI.
5. None of the 114 countries analysed achieved full women's empowerment or complete gender parity.
6. The report provides **for the first time**—a more comprehensive picture of progress in women and girl's human development.

QS World's Best Cities for Students 2024

1. **London retains its top** spot as the world's best student city for the **fifth consecutive time**.
2. **Mumbai has ranked 118**, the highest among Indian cities in the latest Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) Rankings for Best Student Cities 2024.
3. **At 132nd position, Delhi** has come as the second most affordable student-friendly city followed by **Bengaluru at 147, and Chennai at 154**.

2024	2023	City
1	1	London
2	7	Tokyo
3	2	Seoul
4	5	Melbourne
5	2	Munich
6	8	Paris
7	9	Sydney
=8	6	Berlin
=8	4	Zurich
10	11	Boston

Detox Development Report



1. A report titled “**Detox Development: Repurposing Environmentally Harmful Subsidies**” was released by the World Bank.

2. The large amounts of money are wasted on **subsidies for agriculture, fishing, and fossil fuels.**
3. It could be utilized to tackle **climate change and benefit humanity** and the environment, rather than causing harm.
4. The subsidies in the three sectors **exceeded \$7 trillion which amounted to 8%** of the global gross domestic product.
5. Explicit subsidies i.e. direct government expenditures in the **three sectors amounted to \$1.25 trillion.**
6. It is equal to the **size of a big economy like Mexico.**
7. **Countries spent \$577 billion** to actively **lower the price** of polluting fuels such as oil, gas, and coal in 2021.

Henley Passport Index 2023

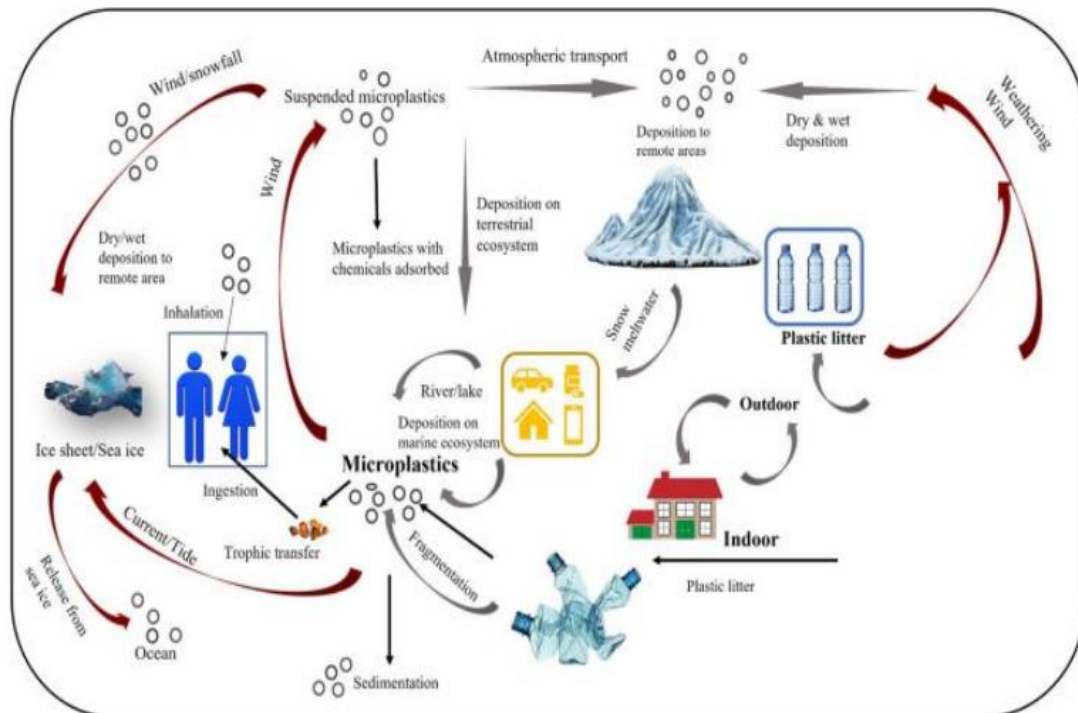
1. According to the Henley Passport Index, Singapore now holds the title of the **world's most powerful passport**, granting visa-free access to **192 out of 227 global travel destinations.**
2. Three European countries, namely **Germany, Italy, and Spain**, have **moved up one rank to share the second position**, with visa-free access to 190 destinations.
3. India has improved 5 spots compared to last year and shares **80th position** with **Togo and Senegal.**
4. Indian passport holders now enjoy visa-free access to **57 countries.**

MISCELLANEOUS

Impact of Microplastics and Nano plastics

1. The **FAO released a report** on Impact of Microplastics and Nano plastics on Human Health.
2. **Microplastics** has led to **intestinal inflammation and gut dysbiosis** — changes in the **gut microbiome and microbiota.**
3. They are known to affect **larger soil microorganisms** and **penetrate the entire food web.**

4. They have eventually deposited in **human lung tissue, placenta, stool, blood and meconium.**
5. **Size of Microplastics (0.1 to 5 000 μm) and Nano plastics (0.001 to 0.1 μm).**



World's Largest Office



1. For **80 years, Pentagon of USA** was the **world's largest office building.**
2. Now the title taken by a **Gujarat's Surat diamond trading centre building.**

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

3. **Surat is known as the gem capital of the world** where 90% of the world's diamonds are cut.
4. The **15-storey building is spread across 35 acres of land** and has nine rectangular structures.

Rock art in Rudragiri hillock

1. Rudragiri hillock is located in the **village of Orvakallu, Atchampet mandal in Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh.**
2. This site unveils a fascinating combination of prehistoric rock paintings from the **Mesolithic period** and **exquisite artwork** from the **Kakatiya dynasty.**
3. These shelters served as living quarters for people during the **Mesolithic age around 5000 B.C.**
4. They bear witness to the **luminous rock paintings** of that era.
5. The paintings, adorned with a variety of color derived from white kaolin and different pigments, depict captivating scenes from the **epic Ramayana.**
6. The **third cave houses** the prehistoric rock paintings from the Mesolithic era.



IMPORTANT DAYS

National Doctor's Day 2023

1. Every year on July 1st, India observes National Doctor's Day to pay tribute to the esteemed **Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy.**

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

2. In India, the observance of National Doctors' Day serves as a platform to recognize and emphasize the invaluable contributions of doctors to society.



GST Day 2023 - July 01

1. Goods and Services Tax (GST) Day aims to honour the successful implementation of the GST regime in the country.
2. The Parliament passed the Constitution (**101st Amendment**) Act in August 2016.
3. **On July 1, 2017**, GST was implemented across India.



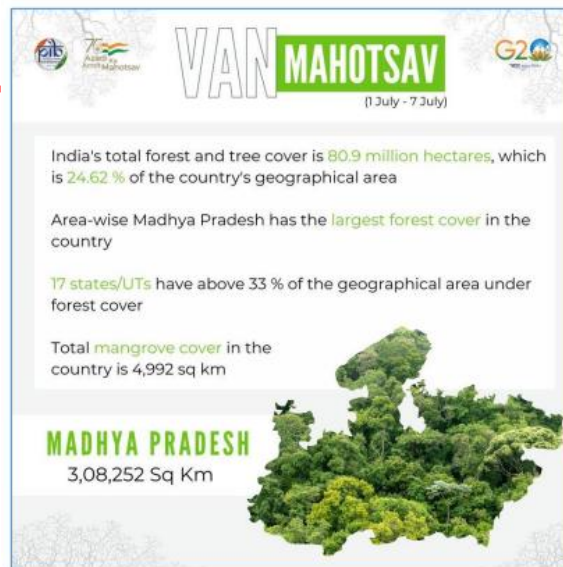
Chartered Accountants Day 2023 - July 01

1. This date marks the formation of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI).
2. The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India is a statutory body established by an Act of Parliament.
3. The Institute functions under the administrative control of the ministry of corporate affairs.



Van Mahotsav 2023 - July 01

1. Van Mahotsav Day is a tree-planting festival that is celebrated in the **first week of July, from 1– 7.**
2. It is observed to spread awareness about the **importance of forests, woodlands and trees in our lives.**



SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

3. It was started by **KM Munshi**, the then Union Minister for Agriculture and Food in **1950**.
4. The objective behind celebrating Van Mahotsav is to keep local people involved in plantation drives and spread environmental awareness.

International Day of Cooperatives 2023 - July 01

1. It is celebrated on the first Saturday of July.
2. The theme for 2023 is "Cooperatives for Sustainable Development."
3. This day brings individuals, communities, and organisations from all corners of the world together to celebrate the remarkable impact of cooperative enterprises.



National Postal Worker Day 2023 - July 01



1. This day aims to respect their hard work and the extra mile that they go, literally, to ensure that we receive our letters on time.

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

2. In **1997**, a postal carrier in the Seattle area started **National Postal Worker Day** to respect the efforts of his employees.
3. Robert Clive sets up a regular postal system in **1766**.
4. Post Office Savings Bank was **opened in 1882**.

World Sports Journalist Day – July 2

1. It aims to **promote and acknowledge** the achievements of diverse sports journalists.
2. Certain individuals possess a deep passion for both sports and journalism, leading them to pursue professions as “Sports Journalists.”



International Plastic Bag Free Day – July 3

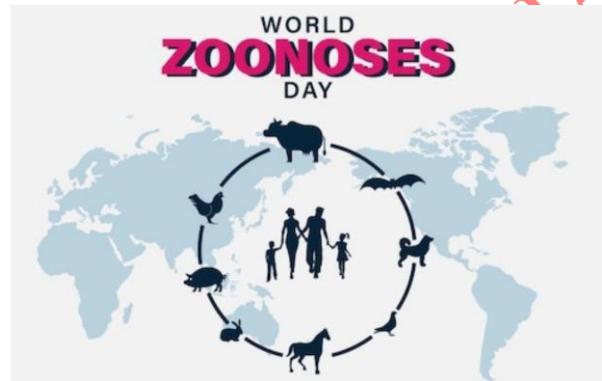


**INTERNATIONAL
PLASTIC BAG FREE
DAY**

1. This day is observed to **increase awareness about the detrimental effects of disposable plastic bags on the environment.**
2. This day acts as a reminder for **individuals, communities, and businesses globally** to minimize their usage of plastic bags and explore more sustainable alternatives.

World Zoonoses day 2023 - July 06

1. This day commemorates the first vaccination came to be developed to fight Zoonoses.
2. Rabies virus is a Zoonotic disease and is known to spread through species.
3. The day was officially recognized and observed on July 6, 2007, honouring the 100th death anniversary of Louis Pasteur.



Every year, on the 7th of July, people across the globe is celebrated the **World Chocolate Day.**

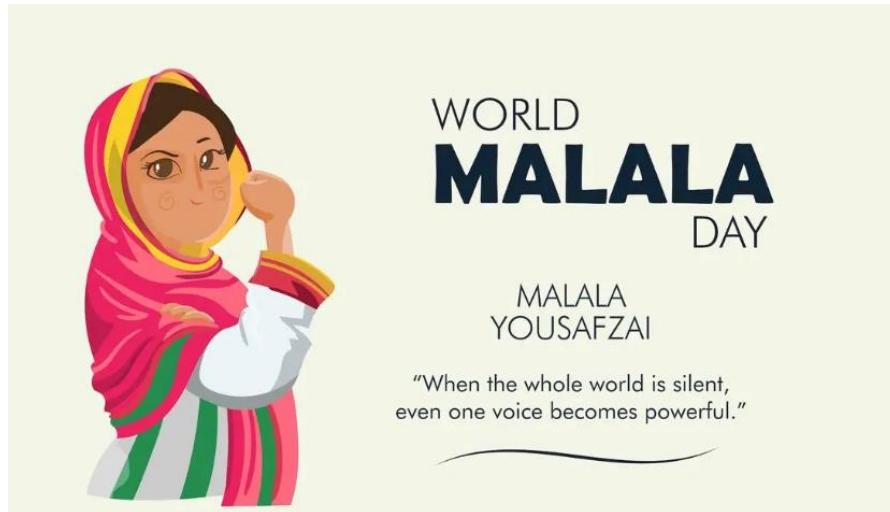
The **Global Forgiveness Day** is observed on July 7 globally.

National Fish Farmers Day 2023 - July 10



Malala Day – July 12

1. International Malala Day is observed on July 12 each year to **honor the bravery and activism of Malala Yousafzai**, a Pakistani advocate for girls' education and the **youngest person to receive the Nobel Prize**.



2. The theme of fame is prominent in the book “**I Am Malala**,” highlighting how renowned individuals, like heroes and role models, can either contribute to societal progress or distract from it.

World Paper Bag Day – July 12

1. This day is celebrated annually to **promote the significance of utilizing paper bags instead of plastic**.
2. This observance serves as a **reminder to prioritize environmentally conscious choices in our everyday lives**.



SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

International Day of Combating Sand and Dust Storms 2023 - July 12

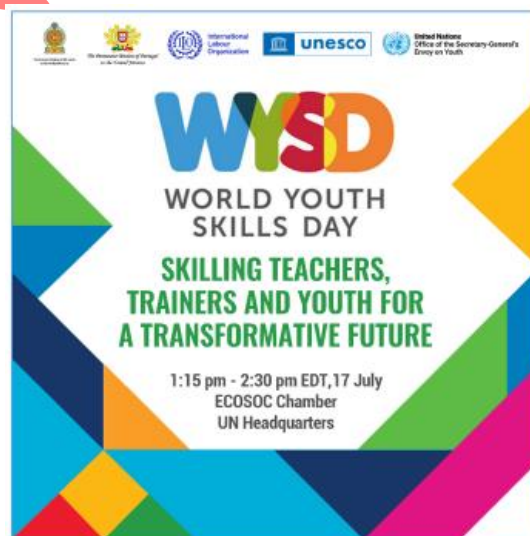
1. The move was designed to raise awareness about the threats posed by these squalls and to spur on the international effort to counter them.
2. The main sources of these mineral dusts are dry regions in Northern Africa, the Arabian Peninsula, Central Asia and China.



National Day of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

1. India celebrates the National Day of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery every July 15.

World Youth Skills Day 2023 - July 15



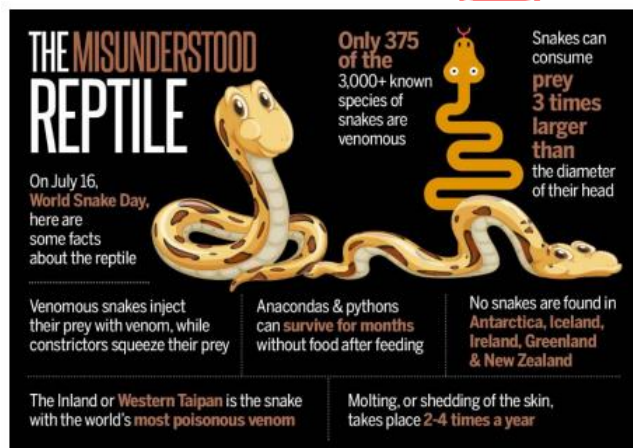
SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

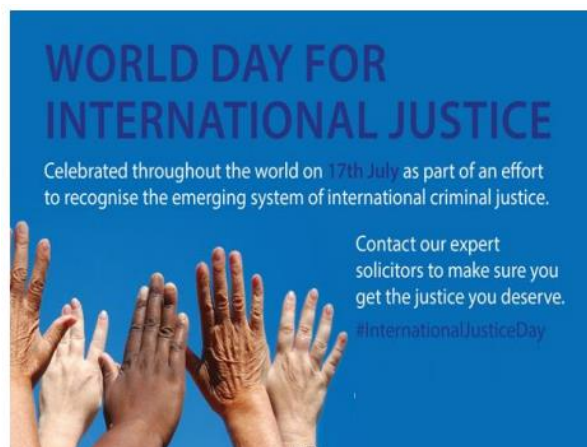
1. It aims to spread awareness about technical, and vocational education training, and the development of other skills relevant to both local and global economies.
2. The **Skill India Mission** was also launched on this day in **2015**.
3. The theme for 2023 is '**Skilling teachers, trainers and youth for a transformative future**'.

World Snake Day 2023 - July 16

1. This day is aimed at increasing awareness about the different species of snake all around the world.
2. The reptile is thought to have come from terrestrial lizards that existed around **174.1 million to 163.5 million years ago**.
3. India is known as the **snake-bite capital of the world**.



World Day for International Justice 2023 - July 17



SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

1. It marks the **anniversary of the adoption of the Rome Statute** on 17 July 1998.
2. It is the founding treaty of the **International Criminal Court**.
3. This court seeks to **protect people from genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and the crime of aggression**.

World Chess Day 2023 - July 20

1. It aims to raise awareness about the game of chess and appreciate chess players across the world.
2. About **70% of the adult population** (US, UK, Germany, Russia, India) has played chess at some point in their lives.
3. **605 million** adults play chess regularly.
4. The oldest living Grandmaster is **Yuri Averbakh**, who celebrated his 100th birthday in May 2022.



International Moon Day 2023 - July 20



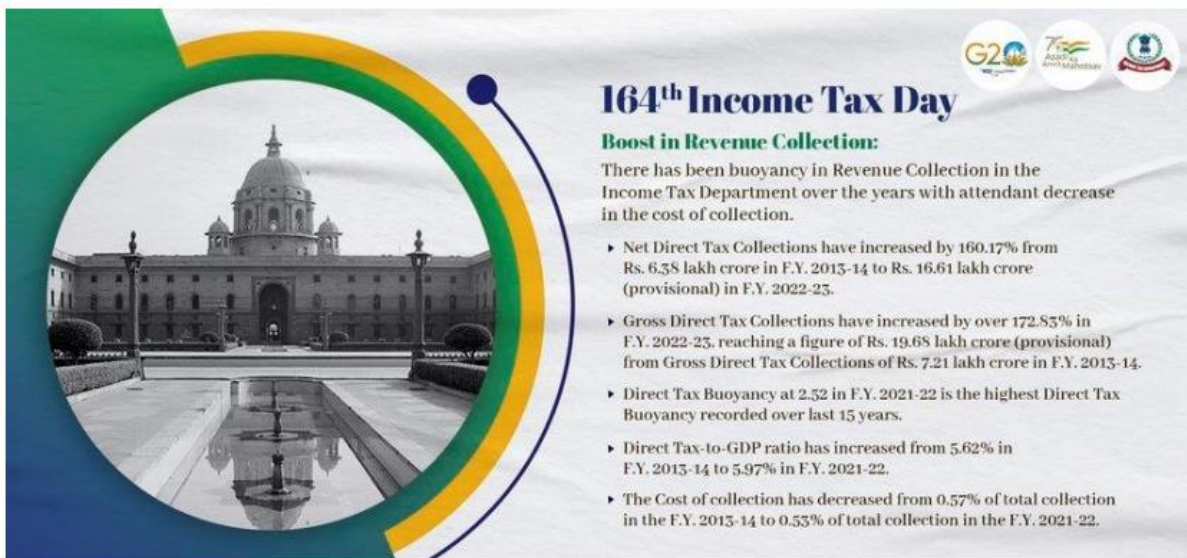
SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

1. This day marks the anniversary of the day when humans first landed on the Moon as part of **Apollo 11 mission**.
2. Astronauts **Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin** landed on the Moon in a location that they then named **Tranquillity Base, on July 20, 1969**.
3. **After the US, Russia, and China, India will become the fourth country** to successfully land on the Moon if Chandrayaan 3 mission is a success.

Income Tax Day 2023 - July 24

1. This year Income Tax Day or Aaykar Diwas to commemorate **164 years of this tax in India**.
2. **Sir James Wilson** implemented Income Tax in India on **July 24, 1860**.
3. The scheme was introduced to recompense the British regime for losses sustained during the Revolt of 1857.
4. The **Income-tax Act of 1922** introduced a distinct nomenclature for the several Income-tax administrations.
5. In **2010, the Finance Ministry declared July 24 as Income Tax Day** to commemorate the establishment of this levy.



World Drowning Prevention Day 2023 - July 25

1. It aims to remember lives lost due to drowning and to increase knowledge on safety in and around water.

2. Globally, the highest drowning rates occur among children aged 1–4 years, followed by children aged 5–9 years.



World Embryologist Day 2023 - July 25

1. It aims to recognise the work and the contributions of the embryologists worldwide.
2. This day marks the birthdate of first baby that was conceived and successfully birthed through in vitro fertilisations (IVF).



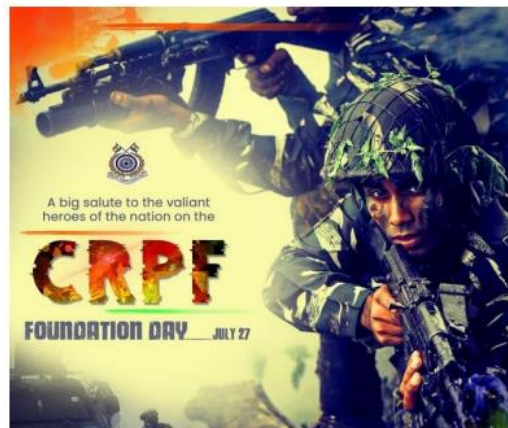
CRPF Day 2023 - July 27

1. This day commemorates the formation of the central force on this day in 1939.

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

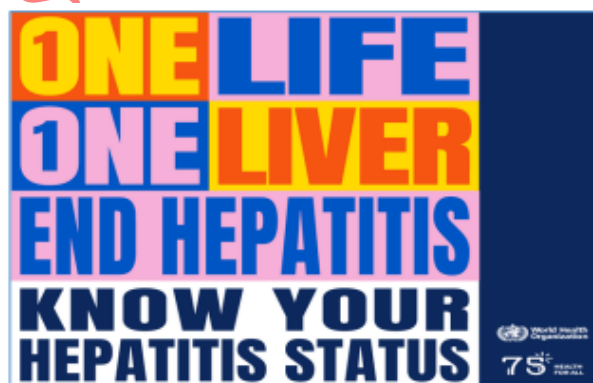
Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

2. CRPF is an integral part of **India's internal security** and one of the oldest Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF).
3. The force was renamed as CRPF by an **Act of Parliament** passed on December 28, 1949.
4. Until 1965, the CRPF **guarded the India-Pakistan border.**



World Hepatitis Day 2023 – July 28

1. The day aims to promote prevention, testing and treatment, and to show support for those affected by hepatitis.
2. This day was established by World Hepatitis Alliance in 2008.
3. The theme for 2023 is "**One life, one liver.**"
4. According to **WHO**, around **354 million people** live with chronic hepatitis B and C worldwide.



World Nature Conservation Day – July 28

1. The World Nature Conservation Day was annually observed July 28.

2. The theme for 2023 is “Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet”.



International Tiger Day 2023 - July 29

1. It aims to raise awareness about the endangered tiger species.
2. Thirteen tiger range countries collaborated to form Tx2, committed to doubling the tiger population by 2022.



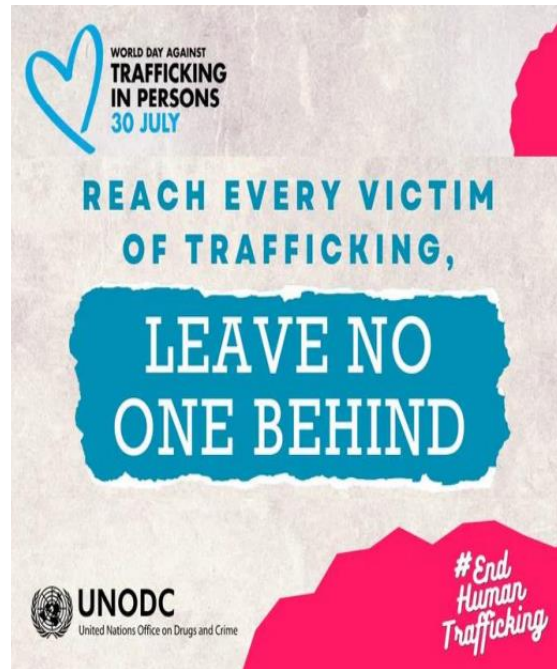
World Day Against Trafficking 2023 - July 30

1. This day is observed to raise awareness about the trends in human trafficking identified by the **United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)**.

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

2. The theme of 2023 is "Reach every victim of trafficking, leave no one behind".



World Ranger Day 2023 - July 31

1. This day is observed in memory of eight rangers who tragically lost their lives while on duty in Virunga National Park, Democratic Republic of Congo.
2. The term 'ranger' is to refer to any professional involved in the protection and management of national parks and natural areas.
3. The theme of 2023 is "30 by 30" aiming to effectively conserve and manage at least 30 percent of the planet's areas by 2030.

