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ESE-2023

(Preliminary Examination)

Current Issues

(February - 2023)

ACE is the leading institute for coaching in ESE, GATE & PSUs

Address: #3rd Floor, Suryalok Complex, Rosary Convent School Road, Hyd - 01, Telangana, India.

Ph: 7799996602, 040- 40047766, 040 - 24750437

27 All India 1st Ranks in ESE

72 All India 1st Ranks in GATE

Current Issues

(February - 2023)

POLICY OF GOVERNANCE

NORTH EAST INDIA'S FIRST COMPRESSED BIOGAS PLANT PROJECT



Why in News?

North East India's first-ever compressed biogas plant project at Domora Pathar in Sonapur under Kamrup (Metropolitan) district is inaugurated by Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma.

KEY POINTS

- It will have a production capacity of five tonne-per-day of compressed biogas that would be produced from raw materials such as cattle-dung, municipal solid wastes, etc.
- Apart from providing a solution to municipal solid waste management crises, compressed biogas plants such as the one being built at Sonapur would also provide an additional source of income to farmers, as they would be able to sell cattle waste to the biogas producers.
- The organic fertilizers that would be produced as a by-product of biogas in such compressed biogas plants would provide a safer alternative to chemical fertilizers currently in use across the state.

20TH EDITION OF 'BIOASIA'



KEY POINTS

- The 20th Edition of 'BioAsia', Asia's largest Life Sciences and Healthcare Convention, was inaugurated in Hyderabad
- This year's theme is 'Advancing for One to celebrate the spirit of collaboration and promoting human prosperity'.
- It is a three day event, The three-day global forum will witness active participation of government dignitaries, business executives, scientists, researchers, and other delegates of global repute.

INDIA'S FIRST STATE TO INDUCT ROBOTIC ELEPHANT FOR RITUAL DUTIES



KEY POINTS

- Kerala become India's first state to induct robotic elephant for ritual duties.
- Sree Krishna Temple in Kerala's Thrissur District has become the first in the country to use a mechanical, lifelike elephant for rituals.
- The elephant name is Irinjadappilly Raman, Irinjadappilly Raman has been gifted to the temple by animal rights organisation People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) India with the support of award-winning Indian film actor Parvathy Thiruvothu.

'CHINTAMANRAO DESHMUKH STATION'



KEY POINTS

- The 153-year-old Churchgate railway station in Mumbai will soon be named as 'Chintamanrao Deshmukh station' after former union finance minister CD Deshmukh.
- The Churchgate railway station in Mumbai will soon be renamed after the first governor of the Reserve Bank of India.

- He served as the Governor from 1943 to 1949, during the crucial years of India's struggle for independence and the early years of its economic development.

BHOPAL RENAMED AS JAGDISHPUR



KEY POINTS

- Madhya Pradesh government announced that Islam Nagar village, situated in the Bhopal district, has been renamed as Jagdishpur.
- The Madhya Pradesh government announced that Islam Nagar village, situated in the Bhopal district, has been renamed as Jagdishpur.
- The MP administration, in an official release, declared the changes and mentioned the change in the name with immediate effect.
- In the press note, the state government said the decision was conveyed by the central government's ministry of home affairs.
- Also, it stated that the home ministry had issued the renaming on September 15, 2022.

SAMAGRA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN



KEY POINTS

- Uttar Pradesh government has launched a campaign to empower girls from the underprivileged class.
- The Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan will work under the Aarohini Initiative Training Programme for the safety and security of girls in 746 Kasturba Gandhi Residential Girls Schools in the state.
- In the first phase, started on February 1, teachers will be trained.
- Two teachers of every Kasturba Gandhi Residential Girls' School will receive the training, who will then educate the students of their respective schools.
- Along with the teachers, the institution will also groom the girls through debates and other activities.
- Uttar Pradesh government has launched a campaign to empower girls from the under privileged class.

SEMICONINDIA CONFERENCE



KEY POINTS

- The Minister for Communications, Electronics & Information Technology and Railways, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw inaugurated the ‘SemiconIndia Conference of Electronics Manufacturing Supply Chain Ecosystem’.
- The overview of the ‘SemiconIndia Program for building a sustainable, trusted and reliable semiconductor and electronics manufacturing ecosystem in the country.
- Some of the prominent sessions (in and out) during the conference included
 - i) Panel discussion on the existing semiconductor ecosystem in India with participants from SCL, GAETEC and STARC;
 - ii) Presentation on facilitating the development of semiconductor ecosystem by Mark Patel, Sr. Partner, McKinsey;
 - iii) Panel discussion regarding the fab construction and availability of requisite chemicals, gasses with participation from Micron, Jacobs, L&T, PDF Solutions and Linde;
 - iv) Presentation on vision for skilled workforce generation by Ms. Jaya Jagdish, SVP, AMD India;
 - v) Panel discussion regarding the industry readiness, challenges for materials and equipment with panellists from Applied Materials, Lam Research, KLA, e-fab, TOK and Merck;
 - vi) Panel Discussion regarding Policies and readiness of State Governments for semiconductor ecosystem with Panellists form State Governments of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Gujarat;

vii) Panel discussion regarding the concerns of the industry, key asks for the establishment of manufacturing facilities with panellists from Global Foundries, Texas Instrument, ST Microelectronics, IBM, Western Digital and JSW steel.

JEEVAN VIDYA SHIVIR



Jeevan Vidya Shivir

KEY POINTS

- Delhi State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) is organising a 5-day ‘Jeevan Vidya Shivir’ for the teachers of Delhi government schools at Thyagaraja stadium.
- Nearly 4,000 teachers from Delhi government schools are expected to participate in this workshop between January 28 to February 1.
- Jeevan Vidya Shivir is a co-existence workshop based on the Coexistential philosophy of A Nagraj. It is a proposal to understand all of Life and provides comprehensive clarity on all aspects of Reality and the Human Being.
- It provides resolutions for our multidimensional dichotomies and problems -via awareness and consciousness development. It offers a new direction for humans to live wholesome, coherent and meaningful lives.
- These 5-day Jeevan Vidya Shivir, he said will help teachers in building their capacity to find those gaps present in the education system and fill them.

FINANCIAL ARCHITECTURE WORKING GROUP



KEY POINTS

- The first G20 International Financial Architecture Working Group meeting under the G20 Indian Presidency will be held on 30-31 January 2023 in Chandigarh.
- The International Financial Architecture Working Group is one of the important workstreams under the G20 Finance Track with a focus on strengthening the international financial architecture.
- It also aims to address multiple challenges faced by vulnerable countries.
- Approximately, 100 delegates from across the G20 membership, Invitee Countries, and International Organizations will be arriving in Chandigarh to participate in the two-day meeting.
- The meeting will be inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, and Hon'ble Minister of Food Processing Industries, Shri Pashupati Kumar Paras.
- The discussions during the two-day meeting will be jointly steered by the Ministry of Finance and the Reserve Bank of India along with France and Korea who are the Co-chairs of the International Financial Architecture Working Group.

INTERNATION ISSUES

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES IN DANGER



KEY POINTS

- Ukraine now has eight UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including cities Lviv, Kyiv, and Odesa. President Volodymyr Zelensky officially submitted Odesa in October 2022, saying the status was vital to protect the nation's cultural heritage.
- As early as the summer of 2022, UNESCO linked international experts with Ukrainian experts to prepare the nomination, with the support of Italy and Greece.
- “Odesa, a free city, a world city, a legendary port that has left its mark on cinema, literature and the arts, is thus placed under the reinforced protection of the international community,” said Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO.
- While the war continues, this inscription embodies our collective determination to ensure that this city, which has always surmounted global upheavals, is preserved from further destruction.”
- The decision commits the 194 States Parties of the Convention – which includes Russia - not to undertake any deliberate step that may directly or indirectly damage the World Heritage site and to assist in its protection.
- The Historic Centre of Odesa has also been inscribed on the more than 50-strong List of World Heritage in Danger, which gives it access to reinforced technical and financial international assistance.
- India will be invited as the focal country at the Madrid International Book Fair in 2025, the Ambassador of Spain to the country Jose Maria Ridao.
- Spain is the theme country at the 46th International Kolkata Book Fair here

EXERCISE COBRA WARRIOR 2023



KEY POINTS

- An Indian Air Force contingent comprising 145 Air Warriors departed Air Force Station Jamnagar today for participating in Exercise Cobra Warrior at the Waddington Air Force Base of the Royal Air Force in United Kingdom.
- The exercise is scheduled from 06 Mar 23 to 24 Mar 23.
- The Exercise Cobra Warrior is a multilateral Air exercise in which Air Forces from Finland, Sweden, South Africa, United States of America and Singapore would also be participating alongside Royal Air Force and IAF.
- The IAF is participating in the exercise this year with five Mirage 2000 fighters, two C-17 Globemaster III and an IL-78 mid air refueller aircraft.
- The aim of the exercise is to participate in diverse fighter aircraft engagements and learn from the best practices of various Air Forces.

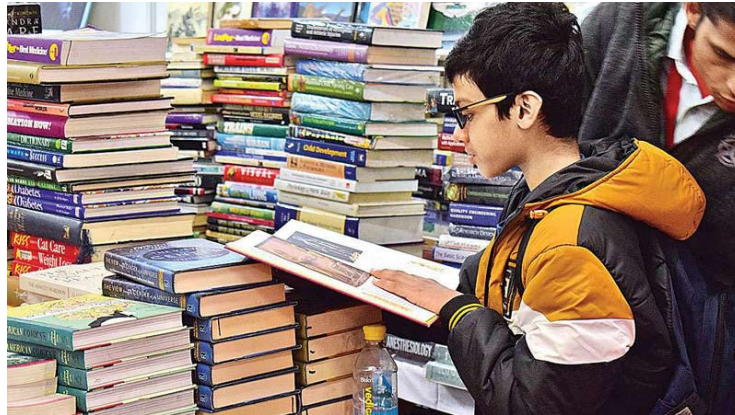
GERMANT-INDIA DEAL ON SUBMARINES



KEY POINT

- Germany will pursue a \$5.2 billion deal with India to jointly build six conventional submarines in the country during Chancellor Olaf Scholz's Feb. 25-26 visit.
- India is desperate to replace its ageing submarine fleet, with 11 of its 16 conventional submarines more than two decades old, and as it seeks to counter China's growing presence in the Indian Ocean.
- Government wants India to manufacture more weapons at home in collaboration with foreign partners after decades of being one of the world's largest arms importers.
- The submarine project, for which Germany's ThyssenKrupp (TKAG.DE) Marine Systems (TKMS) is one of two international bidders, will be discussed between the two countries during Scholz's trip and Berlin would support the deal

WORLD BOOK FAIR



KEY POINTS

- World Book fair 2023 took place in New Delhi from 25 February to 5 March 2023.
- The Fair is organized by National Book Trust, India, an autonomous organization of the Government of India in collaboration with India Trade Promotion Organization.
- The Fair provided UNESCO an opportunity to showcase publications in all its fields of competence, offering a chance to visitors to go through over 100 titles ranging from education, natural sciences, social and human sciences, culture and communication and information.
- In addition, it was ideal platform to meet other UNESCO enthusiasts and to update them on UNESCO's recent as well as upcoming programmes and activities.
- NDWBF 2023 has chosen Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav as its theme, and with many literary and cultural activities around the theme organized during the fair days.

KERALA TOURISM AND UN WOMEN INDIA MOU



KEY POINTS

- A memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed by Kerala Tourism and UN Women India agreed to work towards promoting gender-inclusive tourism sites in the State.
- The Kerala government entered into an agreement with the United Nations (UN) Women to boost women-friendly activities in the State's tourism sector.
- This MOU promotes more jobs to women in key slots which not only generate employment but curtail the prevailing gender inequality.
- It will also ensure female participation in tourism initiatives and allied services besides RT (Responsible Tourism) projects.

I2U2 MEETS TALK



KEY POINTS

- A vice-ministerial level meeting of I2U2 countries – Israel, India, the United States and the United Arab Emirates – discussed investment opportunities with private sector stakeholders to address issues pertaining to energy crisis management and food insecurity.
- The I2U2 leadership discussed opportunities to advance multi-regional cooperation and investment opportunities to address some of the region's most pressing issues.
- The UAE hosted the first vice-ministerial meeting of the I2U2 countries in Abu Dhabi, which was attended by senior officials from all the four countries, along with representatives from the private sectors.

AWARDS

BEST ADVENTURE TOURISM DESTINATION AWARD



KEY POINTS

- The India Today Tourism Survey has chosen J&K Tourism for best adventure tourism destination award.
- The award has been given to the Tourism Department in recognition of its sustained efforts in promoting Gulmarg as an adventure destination of international order.

DADASAHEB PHALKE AWARD 2023



KEY POINTS

- The Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Awards 2023 was held on Monday, 20 February

in Mumbai. Ranbir Kapoor won 'Best Actor (Male)' for his role in Brahmastra while Alia Bhatt won 'Best Actor (Female)' for Gangubai Kathiawadi.

- Best Film Award recipient is Kashmir Files
- Film of the year recipient is RRR.
- The Dadasaheb Phalke Award is India's highest award in the field of cinema. It is presented annually at the National Film Awards ceremony by the Directorate of Film Festivals, an organisation set up by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- The award comprises a Swarna Kamal (Golden Lotus) medallion, a shawl, and a cash prize of ₹1,000,000 (US\$13,000).

65TH GRAMMY AWARDS 2023



KEY POINTS

- The 65th Annual Grammy Awards ceremony was a music awards ceremony held at the Crypto.com Arena in Los Angeles on February 5, 2023.
- It recognized the best recordings, compositions, and artists of the eligibility year – October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022 – as determined by the members of National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences.

2023 MARCONI PRIZE



KEY POINTS

- The 2023 Marconi Prize has been awarded to Hari Balakrishnan, the Fujitsu Professor in MIT's Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (EECS) and a principal investigator in the MIT Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (CSAIL).
- The Marconi Prize is a top honour for computer scientists and is awarded by the U.S.-based Marconi Foundation.
- Dr. Balakrishnan has been cited “for fundamental contributions to wired and wireless networking, mobile sensing, and distributed systems”.
- He graduated with a computer science BTech from IIT Madras in 1993 and received his PhD from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1998. “He has made significant contributions to network congestion control, overlay and peer-to-peer networks, robust routing, and Internet architecture.

BEST INTERNATIONAL FILM AWARD AT HCA



KEY POINT

- RRR Movie of SS Rajamouli won best International film award at Hollywood Critics Association Film Awards
- The film director Rajamouli and actor Ram Charan accepted the award with joy and pride.
- This is a big achievement for it ahead of the Oscars 2023 where Naatu Naatu has been nominated in the Best Original Song.

76TH BRITISH ACADEMY FILM AWARDS



KEY POINTS

- The 76th British Academy Film Awards, more commonly known as the BAFTAs, were held on 19 February 2023, honouring the best national and foreign films of 2022, at the Royal Festival Hall within London's Southbank Centre.

- Best Film: All Quiet at the eastern Front
- Leading Actor: Austin Butler, Elvis
- Leading Actress: Cate Blanchett, Tar

SANSAD RATNA AWARD 2023



KEY POINTS

- Sansad Ratna Awards 2023 have been awarded to thirteen members of Parliament and two parliamentary committees.
- T K Rangarajan (two-term Rajya Sabha MP and prominent CPI-M leader) has received the Sansad Ratna Lifetime Achievement Award.
- The nominations are based on members' total performance in Questions, Private Members Bills, and initiated debates from the start of the 17th Lok Sabha until the end of the Winter Session 2022.
- The Sansad Ratna Awards were established at the suggestion of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam to recognise outstanding Parliamentarians. In 2010, he hosted the maiden edition of the award ceremony in Chennai. The award has been given to 90 outstanding Parliamentarians to date.

SPORTS

80TH GRANDMASTER OF INDIA



KEY POINTS

- Indian chess player Vignesh NR became the 80th Grandmaster of India.
- He won the 24th Nord West Cup 2023 at Bad Zwischenahn in Germany.
- Vignesh's elder brother Visakh NR had also become India's 59th GM in 2019.
- Thus, Visakh and Vignesh become India's first brothers who are Grandmasters.

10M AIR RIFLE AT ISSF WORLD CUP 2023



KEY POINTS

- Indian teen Tilottama Sen won the bronze medal in the women's 10m Air Rifle at ISSF World Cup 2023 in Cairo in Egypt.

- The 14-year-old Tilottama Sen won the second bronze for India, fifth overall after ending the top eight ranking round with a score of 262.
- Great Britain's Seonaid McIntosh won gold and Switzerland's Olympic Champion Nina Christen came second to win silver.

PLAYER-OF-THE-YEAR AWARD BY THE ASIAN CHESS FEDERATION (ACF)

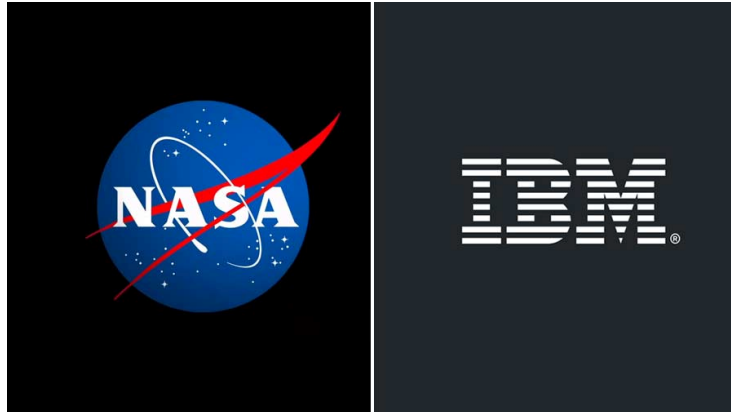


KEY POINTS

- Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh has been honoured with Player-of-the-Year award by the Asian Chess Federation (ACF).
- In March last year, Gukesh became only the sixth Indian to break the 2700 Elo-rating mark, and the youngest Grandmaster from the country to be rated above 2700.
- The All India Chess Federation (AICF) bagged the 'Most Active Federation' award conferred during the ACF annual summit, which is underway here.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

NASA AND IBM PARTNERED TO BUILD AI FOUNDATION



KEY POINTS

- IBM has partnered with NASA to gain new findings on Earth's climate through the power of AI technology. The two organizations will use AI tech developed by IBM.
- On February 1, NASA and IBM announced a new partnership between the two major organizations, aimed at applying artificial intelligence (AI) tools to climate science, scanning research literature for quick answers and identifying features in Earth science data.
- This collaboration is the first time a particular kind of AI—a flexible, broadly-applicable technique known as a foundation model, which IBM is at the forefront of developing—has been applied to Earth sciences.
- The two organizations plan to work together on several projects to extract new insights from Earth observation data.

JAMES WEBB TELESCOPE DETECTS EVIDENCE OF ANCIENT 'UNIVERSE BREAKER' GALAXIES



KEY POINTS

- The James Webb space telescope has detected what appear to be six massive ancient galaxies, which astronomers are calling “universe breakers” because their existence could upend current theories of cosmology.
- Galaxies nearly as massive as the Milky Way and full of mature red stars seem to be dispersed in deep field images obtained by the James Webb Space Telescope (Webb or JWST) during its early observation campaign.
- These galaxies, described in a new study based on Webb’s first data release, are so far away that they appear only as tiny reddish dots to the powerful telescope.
- By analyzing the light emitted by these galaxies, astronomers established that they were viewing them in our universe's infancy only 500 to 700 million years after the Big Bang.
- These galaxies challenge our current understanding of galaxy formation as they should not have existed so early in their life.
- The researchers plan to split the light of each of these galaxies into its rainbow-like fingerprint using spectroscopy.
- This will tell us the distance with 0.1 per cent accuracy. It will also tell us what is producing the light, whether it is stars or something more exotic.

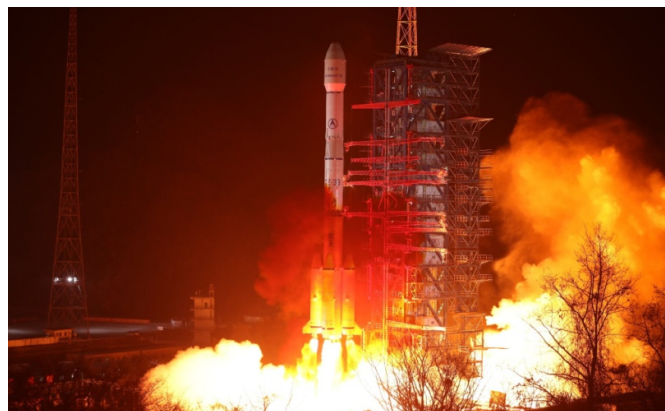
INDIA'S FIRST HYBRID SOUNDING ROCKET



KEY POINTS

- India's first hybrid sounding rocket by private players was launched from Pattipulam village, Chengalpattu in the presence of Tamilisai Soundararajan, Governor of Telangana and Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry and Martin Foundation in association with Dr APJ Abdul Kalam International Foundation and Space Zone India successfully completed the project known as Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Satellite Launch Vehicle Mission 2.
- Around 3,500 students from government schools across the country became part of a team that designed and constructed a student satellite launch vehicle (rocket) and 150 PICO satellite research experiment cubes that contained different payloads.

ZHONGXING-26 BY CHINA



KEY POINTS

- Zhongxing-26 is based on the DFH-4E satellite bus and uses chemical and electric propulsion. It is China's first satellite providing more than 100 gigabits per second (Gbps) and was developed by

CASC's China Academy of Space Technology (CAST).

- The rocket uses liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen fuel in the third stage. Liquid rocket fuels require a controlled temperature to stay in their form.
- CAST states the satellite is equipped with 94 Ka-band user beams.
- This is 3.5 times more than the 26-beam, 20 Gbps, Dongfanghong-3B-based Zhongxing-16 launched in 2017.
- That satellite has been supplying connectivity to aviation passengers such as Sichuan Airlines' Airbus A320 flights using Viasat in-flight connectivity equipment.
- Zhongxing-26 will mainly provide broadband access for fixed terminals and aviation in shipborne users in China and surrounding areas from 125 degrees East in the geostationary belt.

EXERCISE DESERT FLAG VIII



KEY POINTS

- Exercise Desert Flag is a multilateral air exercise in which Air Forces from UAE, France, Kuwait, Australia, UK, Bahrain, Morocco, Spain, Republic of Korea, and USA would also be participating.
- The aim of the exercise is to participate in diverse fighter engagements and learn from the best practices of various Air Forces.
- An Indian Air Force contingent comprising of 110 Air Warriors has arrived at Al Dhafra airbase of United Arab Emirates for participating in Exercise Desert Flag VIII. The IAF would be participating with five LCA Tejas and two C-17 Globemaster III aircraft.
- This is the first occasion when the LCA Tejas shall participate in an international flying exercise outside India.
- The exercise is scheduled from 27 Feb 23 to 17 Mar 23.

REPORTS

INDIAN INSTITUTIONAL RANKING FRAMEWORK 2023



KEY POINTS

- Indian Institutional Ranking Framework released the Top Management and Business School 2023. This year, IIM Lucknow has jumped one place and has secured fourth rank. IIM Ahmedabad has taken over the first position followed by IIM Bengaluru and IIM Kolkata in second and third position respectively.
- This year, IIM Lucknow has jumped one place and has secured fourth rank. IIM Ahmedabad has taken over the first position followed by IIM Bengaluru and IIM Kolkata in second and third position respectively.

INTERNATIONAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY INDEX REPORT



KEY POINTS

- India has been ranked 42nd out of 55 countries in the latest International Intellectual Property Index report.
- This is a fall for India which was at the 40th rank in 2021 and at the 25th place (out of 25 countries assessed) in 2014.
- This Report covers everything from patent and copyright laws to the ability to monetize IP Assets and the ratification of international agreements.
- The Index aims to help nations navigate toward a brighter economic future marked by greater innovation, creativity, and competitiveness.

PERSONS IN NEWS

V RAMACHANDRA APPOINTED AS MEMBER OF SIFL, SEFL



KEY POINTS

- V Ramachandra appointed as member of SIFL, SEFL: V Ramachandra was appointed by RBI to the advisory committees of Srei Infrastructure Finance Limited (SIFL) and Srei Equipment Finance Limited (SEFL).
- The Advisory Committee shall advise the Administrator in the operations of SIFL and SEFL during the corporate insolvency resolution process
- The RBI had appointed a three-member advisory committee to assist the administrator of the two crisis-ridden firms.
- The Advisory Committee shall advise the Administrator in the operations of SIFL and SEFL during the corporate insolvency resolution process.
- The other two members of the committee are -- Venkat Nageshwar Chalasani, former deputy managing director, State Bank of India; and T T Srinivasaraghavan, former managing director, Sundaram Finance Limited.

NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF NITI AAYOG



KEY POINTS

- Former IAS officer BVR Subrahmanyam was appointed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of NITI Aayog by the government on Monday, The Indian Express reported. He is replacing Parameswaran Iyer, who has been named the Executive Director of the World Bank.

DRUG CONTROLLER GENERAL OF INDIA



KEY POINTS

- Rajeev Raghuvanshi appointed as the new drug controller general of India.
- He will be taking on the role from Dr PBN Prasad, who has been presiding over the role in a temporary manner until February 28, 2023.
- Raghuvanshi is a highly accomplished pharmaceutical professional with expertise in dosage form design and development.

TWENTY SECOND LAW COMMISSION OF INDIA



KEY POINTS

- Former chief justice of the Karnataka High Court Ritu Raj Awasthi is the chairperson of the current commission, and its members include KT Sankaran, a retired judge of the Kerala High Court.
- The Union Cabinet chaired by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, approved the extension of the term of the Twenty-second Law Commission of India upto 31st August, 2024.
- The Law Commission of India is a non-statutory body, constituted by the Government of India from time to time. The Commission was originally constituted in 1955 and is re-constituted from time to time

EXTERNAL AUDITOR OF INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION



KEY POINTS

- Comptroller and Auditor General, Girish Chandra Murmu has been selected as External Auditor of the International Labour Organization in Geneva for a four-year term from 2024 to 2027.
- ILO is a UN agency, which brings together governments, employers and workers of 187 Member

States, to set labour standards, develop policies and devise programmes promoting decent work for all women and men.

- CAG is a member of the United Nations (UN) Panel of External Auditors.
- He is also a member of the Governing Boards of the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI) and ASOSAI. CAG chairs the INTOSAI Knowledge Sharing Committee, its Working Group on IT Audit and the Compliance Audit Sub-Committee.

IMPORTANT DAYS

WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY WEEK 2023



KEY POINTS

- World Interfaith Harmony Week is observed every year in the first week of February, from February 1 to 7.
- The World Interfaith Harmony Week was first proposed at the UN General Assembly on September 23, 2010.
- This observation has emerged from the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution that seeks a worldwide celebration of interfaith harmony.
- The World Interfaith Harmony Week provides a platform—one week in a year—when all interfaith groups and other groups of goodwill can show the world what a powerful movement they are.
- It aims at Increase understanding between people of religious and non-religious beliefs.

WORLD WETLANDS DAY



KEY POINTS

- World Wetlands Day is celebrated each year on 2 February to raise awareness about wetlands.
- The theme for World Wetlands Day in 2023 is expected to be "Wetlands Restoration" and it will be based on the restoration of wetlands.
- It aims to raise global awareness about the vital role of wetlands for people and planet. This day also marks the date of the adoption of the Convention on Wetlands on 2 February 1971.

WORLD CANCER DAY 2023



KEY POINTS

- World Cancer Day is celebrated worldwide each year aims to prevent millions of deaths each year by raising awareness and education about cancer, and pressing governments and individuals across the world to take action against the disease.
- World Cancer Day held every 4 February is the global uniting initiative led by the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC).
- The theme for World Cancer day for the last three years - 2022, 2023 and 2024 - is "Close The Care Gap".
- The multi-year campaign is focused on addressing exposure, engagement, and opportunities to meet global awareness of Cancer Day.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ZERO TOLERANCE FOR FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION



KEY POINTS

- International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is observed on 6 February.
- In 2012, the UN General Assembly designated February 6th as the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation.
- The theme for the 2023 commemoration is “Partnership with Men and Boys to Transform Social and Gender Norms to End Female Genital Mutilation”.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT WEEK



KEY POINTS

- International Development Week (IDW) is celebrated from 6 February to 12 February and this year marks the 30th anniversary of International Development Week in Canada.
- International development programs bring knowledge and resources to help communities and

governments around the world as they work to end extreme poverty; support the advancement of human rights; and promote resilient, democratic societies while advancing global security and prosperity.

- Building on past success, • International Development Week #IDW2023 will continue to #GoForTheGoals, a theme that includes 5 sub-themes: Gender Equality, Education, Health, Food Security and Climate Action. These reflect both Canada’s international development priorities and the SDGs.

WORLD PULSES DAY



KEY POINTS

- World Pulses Day takes place on February 10 each year.
- It is a yearly global event designated by the United Nations in 2018 to recognize the significance and nutritional benefits of pulses also known as legumes.
- The 2023 World Pulses Day's theme is “Pulses for a Sustainable Future,” which underlines the significance of pulses in fostering equity and generating chances for livelihood, both of which are essential elements of sustainable agrifood systems

INTERNATIONAL MOTHER LANGUAGE DAY



KEY POINTS

- International Mother Language Day is observed every year to promote linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism.
- 21 February was declared to be International Mother Language Day by UNESCO in 1999. It has been observed throughout the world since 21 February 2000.
- The theme of the 2023 International Mother Language Day, “Multilingual education – a necessity to transform education”

WORLD THINKING DAY



KEY POINTS

- Every year on February 22nd, the World Organization of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) observes World Thinking Day.
- 2023, the theme is “Our World, Our Peaceful Future: The environment, peace, and security.”
- World Thinking Day is a celebration of ten million girls worldwide that has taken place on every 22 February since 1926.

WORLD SCOUT DAY



KEY POINTS

- World Scout Day is observed annually on February 22 by millions of Boy Scouts worldwide.
- The theme of World Scout Day 2023 is “Our World: Our Equal Future: The Environment and Gender Equality”
- It commemorates the birth anniversary of the founder of the Boy Scouts Movement, Lord Robert Baden-Powell.

- The day, celebrated by National Scout Organisations worldwide, is observed through activities such as fundraising, food drives, and other forms of community service.
- The first Boy Scout camp was organised by Lord Baden-Powell back then with a ragtag group of 20 youngsters.

WORLD NGO DAY



KEY POINTS

- World NGO Day is an annual international observance on February 27 to recognize the contributions of non-governmental organizations (NGOs).
- The day was first celebrated in 2010 and has since become an annual event that highlights the work of NGOs around the world.
- This day aims at raising people's awareness so that they can voluntarily join an NGO and contribute to the improvement of society.