

August - 06

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ India is hosting its first multinational air exercise, 'Tarang Shakti 2024' in Sulur, Tamil Nadu with around 30 countries participation.
- ❖ Lt Gen Sadhna Saxena Nair, assumed the office of Director General Medical Services (Army), thus becoming the first woman to be appointed to this post.
- ❖ India Elected as Vice Chair of Supply Chain Council Under Indo-Pacific Economic Framework.
- ❖ The Prime Minister received "Call of the Gir" a coffee table book on Gir and Asiatic lions by Rajya Sabha Member, Parimal Nathwani.
- ❖ Kashmir City received the Certificate of World Craft City from the World Crafts Council.
- ❖ The Ministry of Ayush and WHO has signed a Donor Agreement which outlines the financial terms for implementing the activities of the WHO Global Traditional Medicine Centre (GTMC) in Jamnagar, Gujarat.
- ❖ KIIT (Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology of Bhubaneswar, Odisha), deemed to be university, has been granted the distinguished Special Consultative Status by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (UN ECOSOC).
- ❖ Every year, August 1 is celebrated as World Fintech Day to recognise the transformative impact of financial technology on global economies.

TAMIL NADU

Cauvery water quota 2024

- ❖ Tamil Nadu, during the month of July, realised a heavy quantity of Cauvery water that it got not only its quota for the month and August but also much more.
- ❖ During July 1-31, the State received 96.5 thousand million cubic feet (tmc ft) of water.
- ❖ In June, Tamil Nadu got 2.25 tmc ft against the stipulated 9.19 tmc ft.
- ❖ Totally, in the last two months, Tamil Nadu recorded nearly 98.8 tmc ft against the quota of 40.43 tmc ft.
- ❖ For the month of July, Tamil Nadu is to get 31.24 tmc ft and for August, 45.95 tmc ft.

- ❖ As per the final award of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal, as modified by the Supreme Court in February 2018, Tamil Nadu is to get 177.25 tmc ft in a water year, beginning from June

The Cauvery Water Dispute: SC Verdict

Old Allocations:

Karnataka to Tamil Nadu: 192 tmc ft
Bengaluru: 18.25 tmc ft
Kerala: 30 tmc ft
Puducherry: 7 tmc ft

New Allocation:

Karnataka to Tamil Nadu: 177.25 tmc ft
Bengaluru: 23 tmc ft
Kerala: No change
Puducherry: No change

NATIONAL

Bharatiya Vayuyan Vidheyak 2024



CENTER INTRODUCES BILL TO REPLACE 90-YEAR-OLD AIRCRAFT ACT

Union Civil Aviation Minister Rammohan Naidu introduces Bharatiya Vayuyan Vidheyak in the Lok Sabha to update India's 90-year-old Aircraft Act. The bill aims to modernize civil aviation regulations, support manufacturing, and grant authority to the government for various regulatory actions.

- ❖ The Union Civil Aviation Ministry present the Bharatiya Vayuyan Vidheyak, 2024 Bill (Aircraft Bill) in Parliament.
- ❖ This new legislation aims to overhaul India's aviation regulations, replacing the outdated Aircraft Act of 1934 from the British era.

- ❖ Since 1934, 21 amendments have been made in this act.
- ❖ The bill includes provisions to regulate the design, manufacture, maintenance, possession, use, operation, sale, export or import of any aircraft or class of aircraft.
- ❖ One of the significant changes in the bill is the updated definition of "aircraft."

2nd Largest Aluminum Producer

- ❖ India is ranked as the 2nd largest Aluminium producer, 3rd largest lime producer and 4th largest iron ore producer in the world.
- ❖ The primary aluminium production reached a record level of 41.6 lakh tonnes (LT) in FY 2023-24.
- ❖ In FY 2023-24, iron ore production reached 275 million metric tons (MMT), while limestone production hit 450 MMT.



ECONOMY


PCA framework for Urban Cooperative Banks

- ❖ RBI has issued a prompt corrective action (PCA) framework for primary (urban) co-operative banks.
- ❖ It aims to giving more focus on larger UCBs that require more intensive monitoring by optimal utilisation of supervisory resources.
- ❖ The PCA framework will replace the supervisory action framework (SAF) which was established as an early intervention tool to bring improvements in weak UCBs.

- ❖ The PCA framework has been made applicable to all UCBs in Tier 2, Tier 3 and Tier 4 categories, except UCBs under All Inclusive Directions (AID).

TRIGGER THRESHOLDS FOR PCA				
For NBFCs excluding core investment companies				
Indicator	RBI regulatory minimum	RISK		
		Threshold 1	Threshold 2	Threshold 3
CRAR	15%	12% to below 15%	Between 9% and 12%	Below 9%
Tier1 capital ratio	10%	8% to 10%	Between 6% and 8%	Below 6%
Net NPA ratio	NA	6-9%	9-12%	Above 12%

Note: Based on current regulatory minimum
PCA: Prompt corrective action; CRAR: Capital-to-risk weighted assets ratio



PCA actions Specifications/ Mandatory action

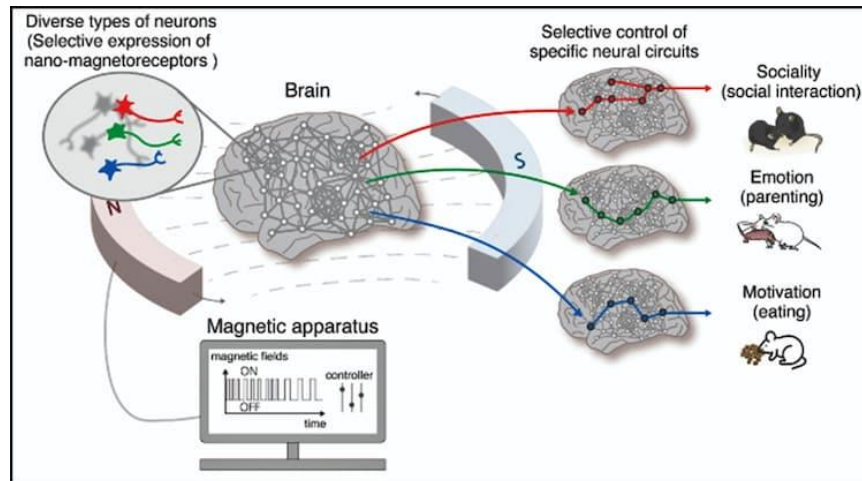
Risk threshold 1 Restriction on dividend distribution/ remittance of profits; promoters/ shareholders to infuse equity and reduce leverage

Risk threshold 2 In addition to mandatory actions of threshold 1, restriction on branch expansion

Risk threshold 3 Besides mandatory actions of thresholds 1 & 2, appropriate restrictions on capital expenditure, other than for technological upgrade within board-approved limits; restrictions/reduction in variable operating costs

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

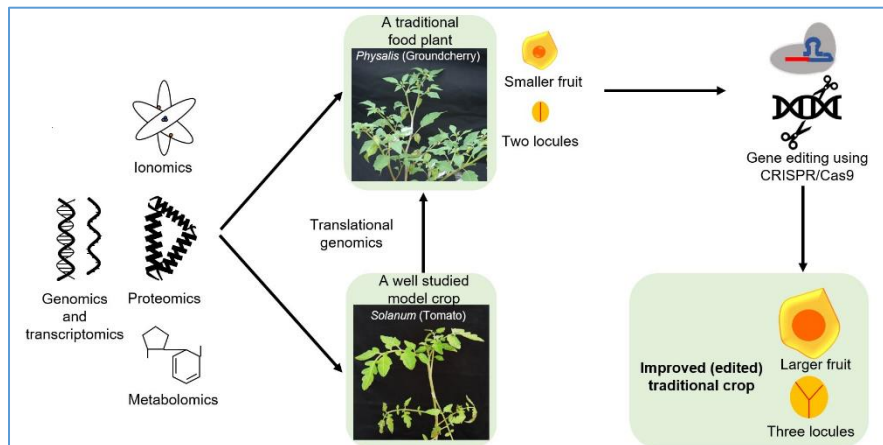
Magnetism to mind-control Mice



- ❖ In a world-first experiment, researchers have successfully demonstrated the ability to control specific brain regions in mice using magnetic fields.
- ❖ This breakthrough is known as Nano-MIND (Magnetogenetic Interface for Neuro Dynamics) technology.

- ❖ The Nano-MIND technology allows for wireless, remote, and precise modulation of specific deep brain neural circuits using magnetism.
- ❖ It opens up new possibilities for understanding and manipulating complex brain functions such as cognition, emotion, and motivation.

Indian gene-editor



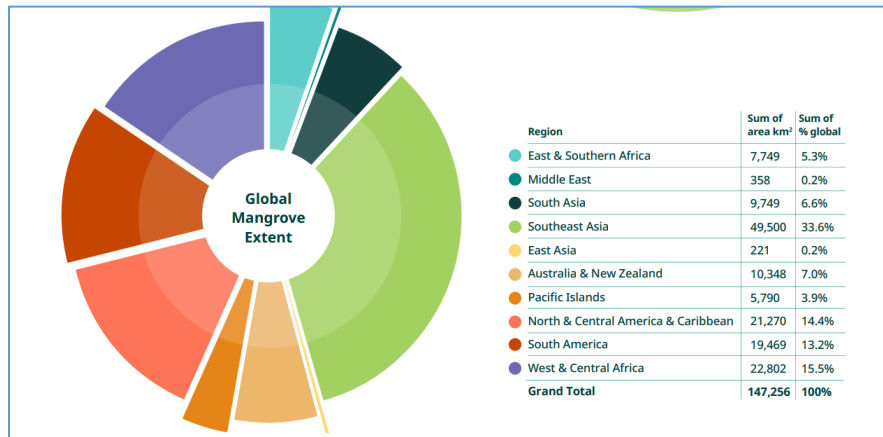
- ❖ The Scientists from the CSIR-Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology, New Delhi, have developed an enhanced genome-editing system.
- ❖ It can modify DNA more precisely and more efficiently than the existing CRISPR-based technologies.
- ❖ Researchers are exploring Cas9 enzymes from *Francisella novicida* bacteria.
- ❖ While this Cas9, called FnCas9, is highly precise, it has a low efficiency as well.
- ❖ To enhance it without compromising its specificity modified and engineered new versions of FnCas9.
- ❖ Currently, Using CRISPR-Cas9, researchers can add, remove or alter specific DNA sequences in the genome of animals.

ENVIRONMENT

State of the World's Mangroves' report 2024

- ❖ It is produced by the Global Mangrove Alliance (GMA).
- ❖ It maps 147,256 km² of mangroves in 2020, adding data for six new territories.
- ❖ Despite of the efforts, only 40% of the world's remaining mangrove forests are in protected areas.
- ❖ Some countries, like Malaysia and Myanmar, have less than 5% protection.

- ❖ Southeast Asia holds about one-third of the world's mangroves, with Indonesia alone accounting for 21%.
- ❖ Over 5,700 plant and animal species, across 21 phyla, have been recorded in Indian mangroves alone.
- ❖ In India, West Bengal holds the largest mangrove area followed by Gujarat, majorly located in the Gulf of Kutch and Gulf of Khambhat.
- ❖ India have perhaps the highest record of biodiversity of any country, with a total of 5,746 species. Of these, 4,822 species (84%) are animals.
- ❖ The Global Mangrove Alliance aims to double the protection to 80% by 2030.



STATES

Officer for 'external cooperation'



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- ❖ The Kerala Government has recently decided to appoint IAS officer K Vasuki as 'state's secretary in charge of matters concerning external cooperation'.

- ❖ The seventh schedule, list 1 - Union list, item 10, specifies that foreign affairs and all matters which bring the Union into relation with any foreign country, are the sole prerogative of the Union Government.
- ❖ Article 253 lays that, the Parliament has power to make any law for implementing any treaty with any other country or any decision made at any international conference, etc.
- ❖ Article 293 provides territorial limits on borrowing power of the states.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Lung Cancer Day 2024 - August 01

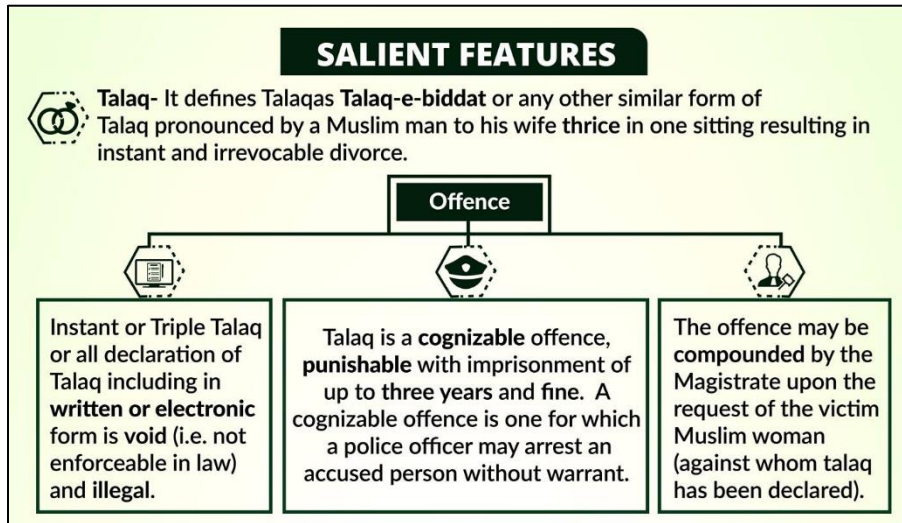
- ❖ It aims to raise awareness about lung cancer and its impact on individuals and communities worldwide.
- ❖ The day aims to educate the public about the risks, symptoms, and treatments of lung cancer, and to support those affected by the disease.
- ❖ Theme for this year is "Close the Care Gap: Everyone Deserves Access to Cancer Care".



Muslim Women rights Day 2024 - August 01

- ❖ The day commemorates the adoption of the law prohibiting triple talaq, which took effect on August 1, 2019.
- ❖ It was commemorated for the first time in 2021.
- ❖ It was the case of Shayara Bano vs Union of India that laid the foundation stones for this law.

- ❖ Talaq-e-biddat, also referred to as triple talaq, is a method of immediate divorce that permits a Muslim man to end his marriage by uttering the word “talaq” thrice in any manner.



MISCELLANEOUS

Most-favored brand 2024 – Kantar



- ❖ Parle continues to be the most-favoured FMCG brand in a recent analysis by market research firm Kantar.



- ❖ It was emerging as the most-chosen in-home trademark for a record 12 years in a row.
- ❖ It is followed by Britannia, Amul, Clinic Plus and Tata Consumer Products.

