



August - 09

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Indian Prime Minister inaugurated the 32nd International Conference of Agricultural Economists in Delhi.
- ❖ The 7th edition of the India International Hospitality Expo (IHE 2024) was held in Greater Noida.
- ❖ Manu Bhaker has been chosen as India's flag bearer at the Paris 2024 Olympics Closing Ceremony.
- * Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who had been in power for the past 15 years, resigned recently after worse unrest.
- ❖ The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) officially named Curação as the sixth Associate Member of the regional organisation.
- ❖ The Union Government has introduced a new Electronic Human Resource Management System (e-HRMS).
 - This system aims to streamline and enhance the management of government employees' service matters through digital means.

TAMIL NADU

Terracotta pipelines - Keeladi 2024



❖ A hollow terracotta pipeline resembling a drainage system has been unearthed in Keeladi.





- ❖ The unearthed materials have proved the knowledge that prevailed in the water management system.
- ❖ The alignment seems to be in a series connected to the pipelines in the adjoining sections.

New mayors of Tirunelveli and Coimbatore



- ❖ Mayors of these corporations, PM Saravanan and Kalpana Anandakumar, had resigned on July 3.
- ❖ The State Election Commissioner instructed the collectors of Tirunelveli and Coimbatore to conduct election.
- * The candidate has been chosen by indirect election in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ In indirect elections, the elected councillors will vote to select a candidate to the mayoral post.
- ❖ A second-time councillor G. Ramakrishnan was elected Mayor of Tirunelveli.
- ❖ The Councillor R. Ranganayaki has been elected as Mayor for the Coimbatore Corporation.

NATIONAL

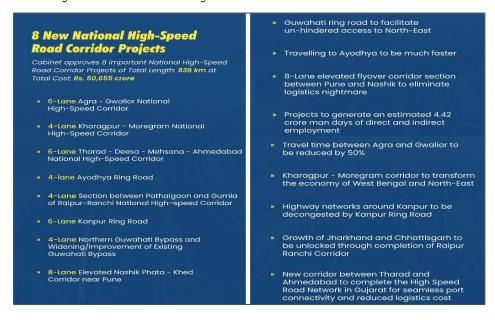
New National high-speed corridors

❖ The Cabinet approves 8 important National High-Speed Road Corridor Projects of length 936 km at a total capital cost of Rs. 50,655 Crore.





❖ It aims to improve the logistics efficiency, reduce congestion and enhance the connectivity across the country.



INTERNATIONAL

G20 International Tax Cooperation



- ❖ The G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors met in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- ❖ It released a stand-alone Tax Declaration on international tax cooperation.
- ❖ The Declaration applauds domestic tax reforms by several G20 countries to tackle inequalities and promote fairer and more progressive taxation systems.

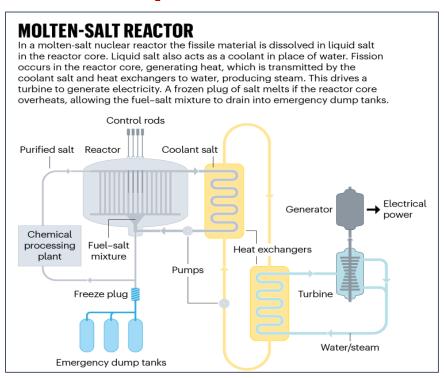




- ❖ It includes a vow to strengthen domestic reforms through peer support and the sharing of best practices.
- ❖ The Declaration calls for the swift implementation of the Crypto-Asset Reporting Framework (CARF) and revisions to the Common Reporting Standard (CRS) by jurisdictions.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Thorium molten salt nuclear power station



- ❖ China plans to start building the world's first molten salt reactor power station next year in the Gobi Desert.
- ❖ The reactor does not need water for cooling because it uses liquid salt and carbon dioxide to transfer heat and generate electricity.
- ❖ China has enough thorium reserves to meet its energy needs for 20,000 years.
- ❖ The world's first thorium-based molten salt reactor was built and operated at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in the United States in the 1960s for four years.
- ❖ The United States has 93 nuclear power units, significantly more than China's 56.
- Currently, China is growing at a rate of six to eight nuclear reactors per year using self-developed new technologies.

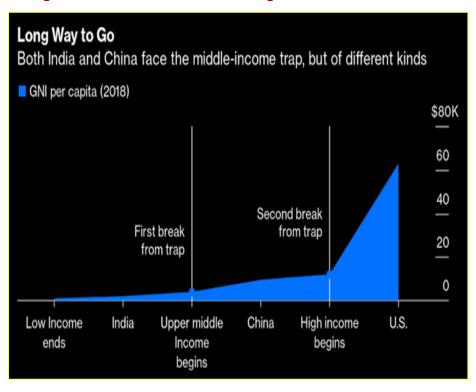




❖ In fact, Beijing's plan is that by 2035, the number of advanced reactors in China will reach 150, surpassing the combined total of the United States and France.

REPORTS AND INDICES

World Bank report on Middle-Income Trap



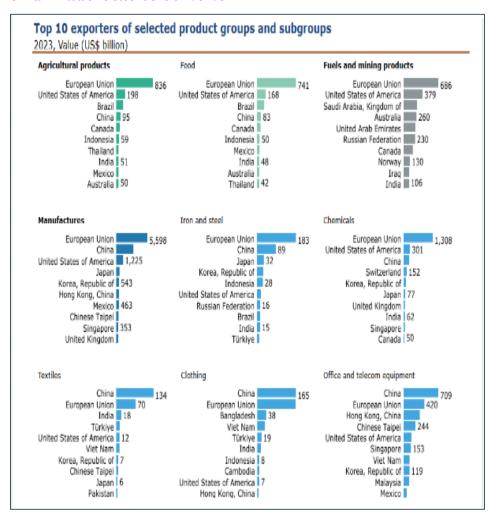
- ❖ The 'World Development Report 2024: The Middle-Income Trap' was released by World Bank.
- ❖ the 'Middle Income Trap' is described as countries typically encounter a "trap" when they reach 10 percent of the annual US GDP per capita, or middle of the range, equivalent to \$8,000 as of today.
- ❖ India is among over 100 countries that will face "serious obstacles" in the next few decades to become high-income countries.
- India could take as many as 75 years to attain one-quarter of the United States income per capita.
- ❖ China may take over 10 years to achieve this feat, and Indonesia close to 70 years.
- ❖ By 2023-end, 108 countries with a total population of six billion (75 per cent of the world) were classified as 'middle-income'.





- ❖ They each had annual GDP per capital between \$1,136-13,845, and two out of three people still living in poverty.
- Since 1990, only 34 middle-income economies have managed to shift to high-income status.

WTO's World Trade Statistics 2023



- ❖ In 2023, world trade in goods and commercial services fell on average by 2% to US\$ 30.5 trillion, on a balance of payments basis.
- Trade in goods declined by 5% whereas services trade took an opposite trajectory, increasing by 9%.
- ❖ As a result, the share of goods in global trade decreased from 77.8% in 2022 to 75.3% in 2023.
- ❖ The share of services reached 24.7%, up from 22.2%.





- ❖ India improved to the 17th rank among the largest merchandise exporters in 2023.
- ❖ India ranked in 10th place in Fuels and mining products export. Iron and steel
- ❖ India ranked in 10th place in Iron and steel export and 8th rank in chemicals export.
- ❖ India ranked in 3rd place in Textiles export and 5th place in clothing export.

STATES

GRIT think-tank



- ❖ Gujarat Chief Minister announced the creation of the Gujarat State Institution for Transformation (GRIT).
- ❖ It is modelled after the NITI Aayog, to serve as a public policy think-tank for the state.
- ❖ GRIT will aid to systematically achieve the state's development goals.

Bailey bridge at Wayanad

- ❖ The Indian Army's Madras Engineer Group built a "Bailey bridge", assembled at Chooralmala, to reach Mundakkai village.
- ❖ They have completed the construction of 190m long Bridge in record time- around 31 Hours.
- ❖ Major Sita Ashok Shelke was the only female army officer in that Indian Army unit.





- ❖ A Bailey bridge is a type of modular bridge that consists of pre-fabricated components.
- It was allowing for quick and efficient assembly on-site.
- ❖ During World War II, the Bailey bridge was developed by English civil engineer Donald Coleman Bailey.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Yamini Krishnamurthy



❖ Andhra Pradesh born Indian classical dance exponent Yamini Krishnamurthy passed away recently.

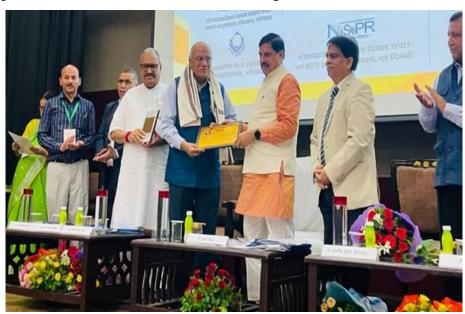




- ❖ She was a recipient of Padma Shri in 1968, Padma Bhushan in 2001 and Padma Vibhushan in 2016.
- ❖ She was also conferred the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 1977.

Rashtriya Hindi Vigyan Sammelan 2024

- ❖ CSIR-AMPRI, Bhopal organized the "Rashtriya Hindi Vigyan Sammelan 2024".
- ❖ This was the fourth edition of the conference.
- ❖ It aims to offer a platform for researchers to present and discuss their work in Hindi, fostering the popularisation of science and technology through this language.
- Chancellor of Rabindranath Tagore University, Santosh Chaubey, was honoured with the Acharya Prafulla Chandra Ray Vigyan Samvardhan Samman for his exceptional contributions to science through Hindi literature and writing.



IMPORTANT DAYS

10th National Handloom Day 2024 - August 03

- ❖ It aims to recognise the efforts and skills of the community of weavers engaged in this sector.
- ❖ On this day in 1905, the Swadeshi movement launched to encourage Indigenous industries and in particular handloom weavers.
- ❖ In 2015, the Centre decided to observe this day every year.





❖ The 15-day long exhibition – 'VIRAASAT' -- has been organised to mark the 10th National Handloom Day this year.



