

July - 08

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The 46th session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee, will be hosted by India at the Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi.
- ❖ The 16th edition of the India-Mongolia Joint Military Exercise Nomadic Elephant 2024 began at the Foreign Training Node in Umroi, Meghalaya.
- ❖ Ashwin Ramaswami, the first Gen-Z (born in 1995-2012) Indian-American candidate contesting for the Georgia state Senate seat in District 48.
- ❖ Senior Indian Information Service officer Dharendra K Ojha has been appointed as the principal spokesperson of the central government.
- ❖ Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) leader Hemant Soren was sworn in as Jharkhand Chief Minister for the third term.
- ❖ Around 120 people killed in a crush during a satsang (a Hindu religious festival) in Hathras district, Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ Srinagar has become the fourth Indian city to be recognised as a 'World Crafts City' by the World Craft Council (WCC).
 - Jaipur, Malappuram and Mysore are the other three Indian cities that have earlier been recognised as World Craft Cities.
- ❖ Writer, critic and feminist activist P. Geetha was presented with the first K. Saraswathi Amma Award.
 - This was instituted by WINGS (Women's Integration and Growth Through Sports) Kerala, for feminist studies.

TAMIL NADU

3 Testing facilities



- ❖ The Defence Ministry will be establishing three state-of-the-art testing facilities in Chennai.

- ❖ Unmanned Aerial System (UAS), Electronic Warfare (EW) and Electro Optics (EO) domains testing facilities comes under the Tamil Nadu Defence Industrial Corridor.
- ❖ Totally seven testing facilities were approved — four in TN and three in Uttar Pradesh.

NATIONAL

Renegotiation of Ganga Waters Treaty

- ❖ India and Bangladesh signed the Ganga Waters Treaty in 1996.
- ❖ This pact is mostly focused about the fair sharing of water from the Ganga River, needs to be renewed in 2026.
- ❖ Water availability changes because of extreme weather, changing rainfall trends, and melting glaciers.
- ❖ This is a key issue in the renegotiation of the treaty.



Reconstitution of Cabinet panels

- ❖ The Union government reconstituted eight Cabinet committees.
- ❖ It was making room for the members from allies in the all-important Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) and the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs (CCPA).
- ❖ The Cabinet panels are reconstituted from time to time to include changes in portfolios or exclusion or inclusion of new ministers.

- ❖ The previous reconstitution was done on December 8, 2023.



INTERNATIONAL

New British PM Keir Starmer



- ❖ Labour Party chief Keir Starmer has replaced Rishi Sunak as the Britain Prime Minister.
- ❖ The Party was securing 412 (+211) seats with the outgoing Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's Conservative Party down to 121 (-250) seats in the 650-seat House of Commons.
- ❖ The result ends the 14 years of Conservative-led government.

- ❖ British Tamil Uma Kumaran, of the Labour Party, has been elected the Member of Parliament.

24th SCO Summit

- ❖ The 2024 Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit was held in Astana, Kazakhstan.
- ❖ It has adopted the Astana Declaration and approved 25 strategic agreements on energy, security, trade, finance, and information security.
- ❖ Belarus has become the 10th member state of the SCO.
- ❖ The Shanghai Five originated in 1996 with 5 members.
- ❖ SCO was established on 15th June 2001, in Shanghai, adding Uzbekistan as a sixth member.
- ❖ Afghanistan and Mongolia hold Observer Status.



ECONOMY

RBI's 29th Financial Stability Report

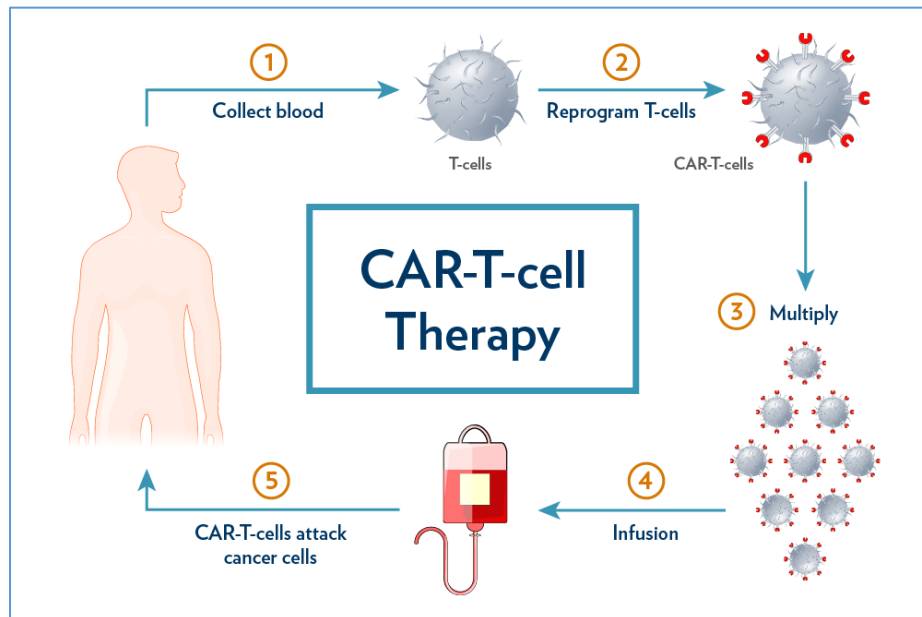
- ❖ Capital to risk-weighted assets ratio (CRAR) and the common equity tier 1 (CET1) ratio of scheduled commercial banks (SCBs) had stood at 16.8% and 13.9%, respectively, at end-March 2024.
- ❖ SCBs' gross non-performing assets (GNPA) ratio fell to a multi-year low of 2.8 per cent.
- ❖ Their net non-performing assets (NNPA) ratio fell to 0.6 per cent at end-March 2024.

- ❖ Non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) remain healthy, with CRAR at 26.6 per cent, GNPA ratio at 4.0% and return on assets (RoA) at 3.3%, respectively.
- ❖ CRAR is a measure of a bank’s financial strength.
- ❖ A CRAR of 16.8% means that for every 100 units of risk, the bank has 16.8 units of capital to cover potential losses.
- ❖ GNPA Ratio measures the percentage of a bank’s loans that are not being repaid.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

CAR-T cancer therapy



- ❖ Car-T therapy is a short for “chimeric antigen receptor T-cell”.
- ❖ It is a cutting-edge treatment that reprogrammes a patient’s immune cells to fight their cancer.

- ❖ This innovative approach involves taking T-cells, a type of white blood cell that plays a crucial role in the immune system.
- ❖ T-cells taken from a patient and modifying them in a laboratory to better recognise and attack cancer cells.
- ❖ These enhanced T-cells are then multiplied and infused back into the patient, where they seek out and destroy cancer cells.
- ❖ Lots of data shows that in difficult-to-treat lymphomas, a type of cancer, patients can do so well.
- ❖ Now, it is found that this will be causing new cancers in some patients who had undergone the treatment.
- ❖ Rarely, patients developed new immune-cell cancers, such as lymphomas or leukaemias, which are types of blood cell cancer

STATES

Indian Gaur in Srisailam Tiger Reserve

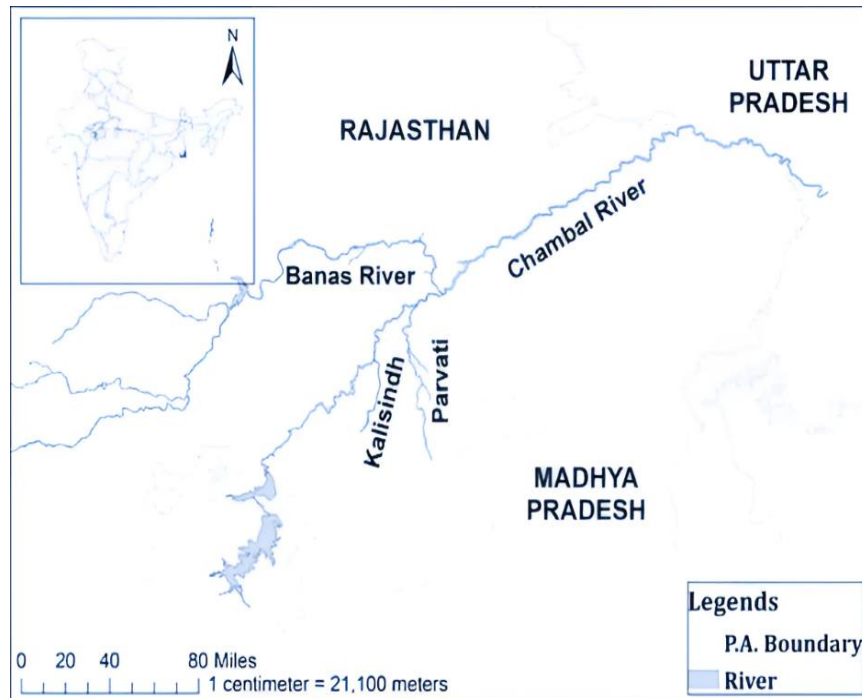


- ❖ An Indian gaur (*Bos gaurus*) has been spotted in the Atmakur stretch of Nallamala forest in Andhra Pradesh's Nandyal district.
- ❖ The forest was once home to the Indian gaur (Adavi Dunna in Telugu), which strangely disappeared from the landscape for a long time.
- ❖ The Indian gaur was last found here in the 1870s, and hence it has made a reappearance after 150 years.

- ❖ The Gaur also called Indian Bison, is the largest extant bovine, native to South Asia and Southeast Asia.
- ❖ Nagarjunsagar-Srisaïlam Tiger Reserve is the largest tiger reserve in India.

Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal River linking project

- ❖ Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan governments have signed an agreement for the implementation of Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal River (PKC) linking project in Bhopal.
- ❖ The project would provide water to 13 districts in Rajasthan, and Malwa and Chambal regions in Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ PKC link project is one of the 30 links included in the National Perspectives Plan formulated by the erstwhile Union Ministry of Irrigation and the Central Water Commission in the year 1980.



IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of Cooperatives 2024 - July 6

- ❖ This day is celebrated on the first Saturday of July.
- ❖ The International Cooperative Alliance had established the first International Cooperative Day in 1923 to honour the ideals and principles of cooperation.

- ❖ This year marks the 102nd International Cooperative Day and the 30th International Day of Cooperatives recognised by the United Nations.
- ❖ This year's theme will be "Cooperatives Building a Better Future for All."



MISCELLANEOUS

World's Oldest Cave Painting

- ❖ The oldest example of figurative cave art has been discovered in the Indonesian Island of Sulawesi.
- ❖ The painting of a wild pig and three human-like figures is at least 51,200 years old.
- ❖ Also, it is more than 5,000 years older than the previous oldest cave art.

