

July - 09

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ An India-Russia joint venture that was set up to produce the AK-203 assault rifles has completed its first phase with the delivery of 35,000 sets to the Indian Army.
- ❖ Divya Kala Shakti and Divya Kala Mela, a Unique Confluence of Creativity and Talent of Disabled Entrepreneurs, starts at KIIT University, Bhubaneswar.
- ❖ The Indian Army recently got its first 4G mobile base station made in India, which was built by Signaltron in Bengaluru.
- ❖ Jaipur Military Station has become the second military station in the country to have a road made of plastic waste, following Narangi Military Station in Assam.
- ❖ Former Bank of England economist Rachel Reeves became a Britain's first woman finance minister.
- ❖ The Indian Air Force with Rafale fighter jets participated in the 4th joint Exercise - HOPEX in Egypt.

TAMIL NADU

AI teaching assistant - Vidya



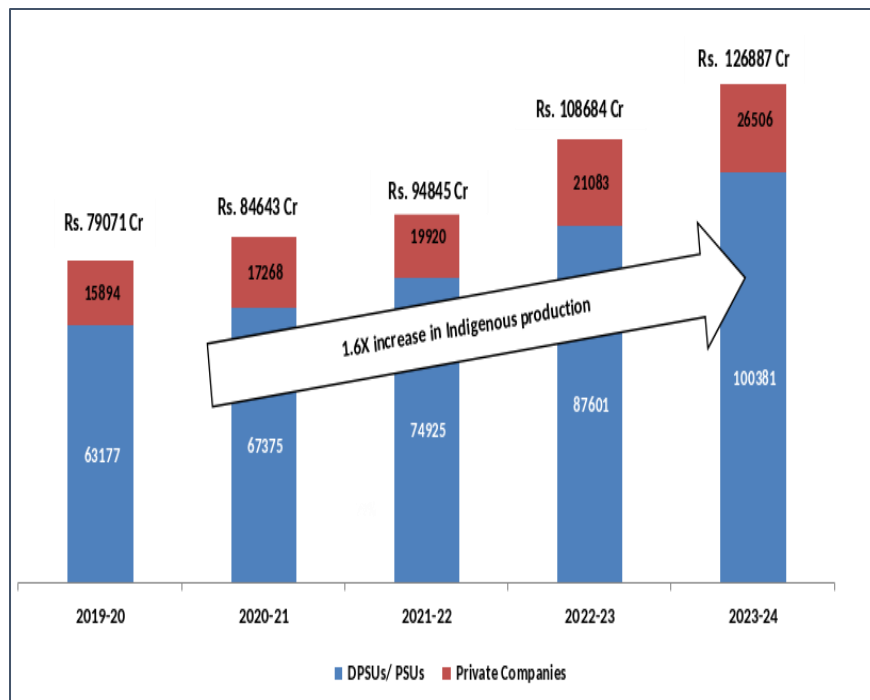
- ❖ Retired computer science teacher Eswari Jayaraman, 63, based in Kumbakonam, has designed "Vidya".
- ❖ It is an educational robot powered by artificial intelligence (AI).

- ❖ It will transform the classroom experience for teachers and students in the coming years.
- ❖ It is unveiled at the National Vidyalaya Senior Secondary School in Kumbakonam

NATIONAL

India's Defense Production 2023-24

- ❖ India recorded the highest ever growth in the value of local defence production in the financial year 2023-24 with the figure reaching almost ₹1.27 lakh crore.
- ❖ Of the total value of production in 2023-24, 79.2% was contributed by defence public sector undertakings and other PSUs.
- ❖ The remaining 20.8% is by the private sector.
- ❖ The value of defence production is around 17% higher than in the previous financial year.



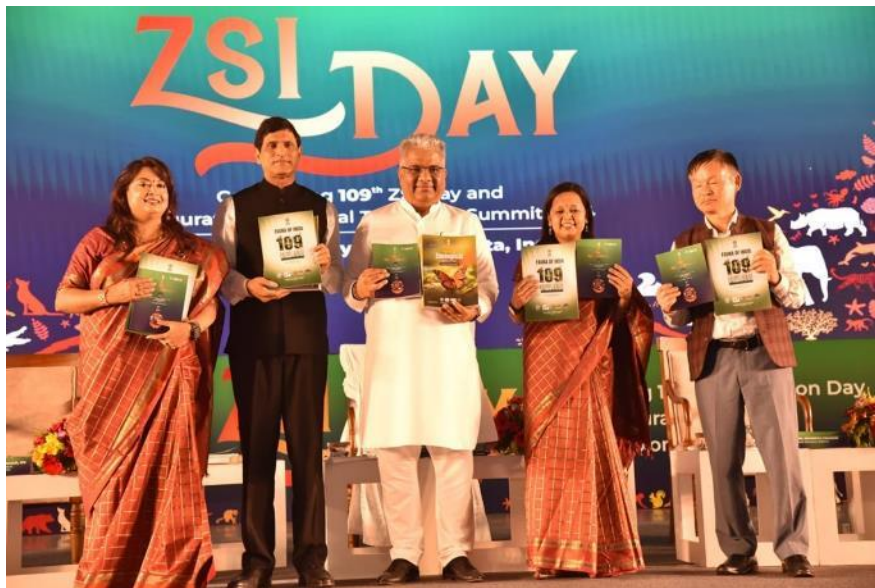
Central Railway's Floating Solar Plant

- ❖ The Central Railway (CR) is set to install floating solar panels on Igatpuri Lake in Maharashtra, a first for Indian Railways.
- ❖ This initiative will not only generate power but also conserve water.

- ❖ The railway reservoir at Igatpuri has a capacity to store 1,206 million litres of water over a surface area of 2.8 lakh square meters.
- ❖ The floating solar plant will boast a capacity of 10 MWp.



Fauna of India Checklist Portal



- ❖ India has become the first country in the world to prepare a checklist of its entire fauna, covering 104,561 species.
- ❖ It hosts 121 checklists of all known taxa across 36 phyla, including endemic, threatened, and scheduled species.

- ❖ It is a compilation of all animal species recorded in India since the 1750s, including endemic, threatened, and scheduled species.
- ❖ As per the ZSI report 2023, India is one of the world's 17 megadiverse nations, hosting around 7-8% of the world's documented species.

New Weapon systems school

- ❖ Indian Air Force inaugurated the newly established Weapon Systems School (WSS) at Air Force Station Begumpet, Hyderabad.
- ❖ The new branch will have four streams:
 - Flying stream to operate the weapons and systems in airborne platforms like the Sukhoi-30 MKI and C-130J,
 - Remote stream to operate remotely piloted aircraft,
 - Mission commanders and operators for Surface to Air and Surface-to-Surface weapon systems, and
 - Intelligence stream for handling space-based intelligence and imagery,



INTERNATIONAL

RIMPAC naval exercise

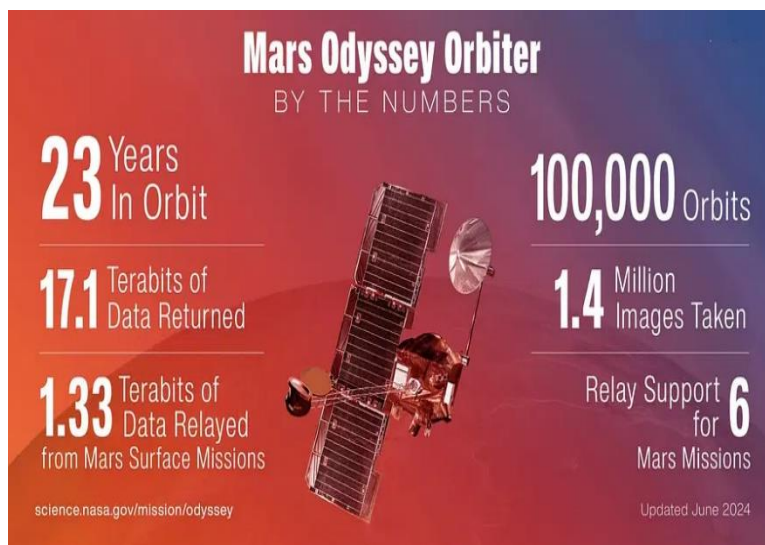
- ❖ The Indian Navy has joined the world's largest naval military wargame Rim of the Pacific Exercise (RIMPAC) in Hawaii.
- ❖ Twenty-nine nations, 40 surface ships, three submarines, over 150 aircraft and more than 25,000 personnel are participating the exercise.

- ❖ The Indian Navy has deployed frontline warship INS Shivalik for the RIMPAC.
- ❖ The theme of RIMPAC 2024 is "Partners: Integrated and Prepared".



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

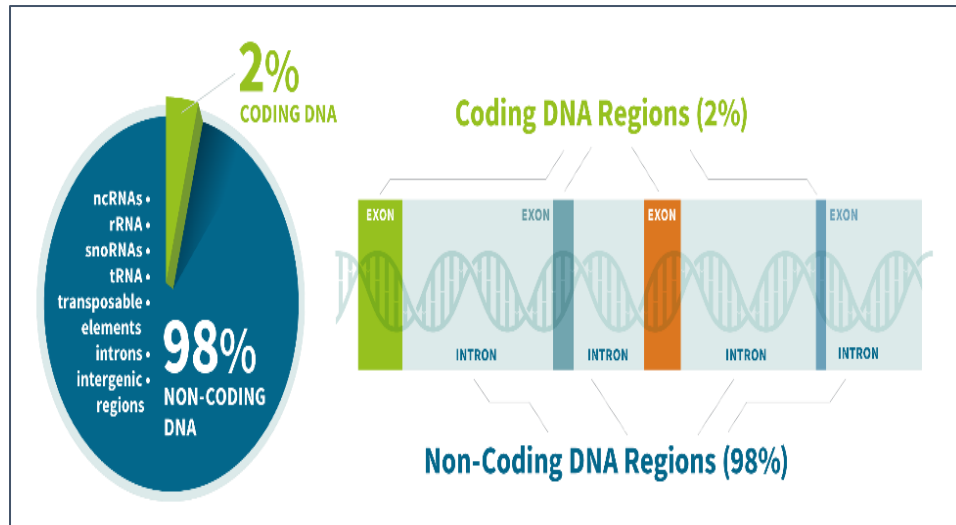
Olympus Mons



- ❖ NASA's Odyssey spacecraft, the longest-running mission at Mars, circled the Red Planet for the 100,000th time.

- ❖ The space agency released an intricate panorama of Olympus Mons, the tallest volcano in the solar system.
- ❖ The volcano's base sprawls 373 miles (600 kilometers) near the Martian equator.
- ❖ It soars 17 miles (27 kilometers) into the planet's thin air.

Junk DNA



- ❖ Using artificial intelligence, the researchers have found potential cancer drivers hidden in so-called 'junk' regions of DNA.
- ❖ The discovery could lead to early diagnosis and new treatments effective for many cancer types.
- ❖ Non-coding DNA, also called “junk DNA” is the 98% of our genome that doesn't contain instructions for making proteins.

REPORTS AND INDICES

Top Expensive Cities 2024

- ❖ Mercer recently released report ‘Cost of Living City Ranking 2024’.
- ❖ Hong Kong is the most expensive city in the world for the fifth time.
- ❖ Singapore, another Asian economic hub, follows closely in second place.
- ❖ In Europe, London and cities in Switzerland, along with American cities like New York City and Los Angeles, make up the top ten spots.
- ❖ Mumbai has climbed to 136th place in the global ranking.
- ❖ New Delhi ranked 165th and Bengaluru’s ranking is 195th.



- ❖ The least expensive cities are Abuja, Nigeria (226), Lagos, Nigeria (225) and Islamabad, Pakistan (224).

2024 Cost of Living City Ranking		
Ranking	City	Location
1	Hong Kong	Hong Kong SAR
2	Singapore	Singapore
3	Zurich	Switzerland
4	Geneva	Switzerland
5	Basel	Switzerland
6	Bern	Switzerland
7	New York	United States
8	London	United Kingdom
9	Nassau	Bahamas
10	Los Angeles	United States

STATES

Gujarat FDI in 2023-24



- ❖ Gujarat has attracted a Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) of USD 7.3 billion in the financial year 2023-24, with a jump of 55 per cent.
- ❖ Gujarat occupied the second spot in the country after Maharashtra in terms of the FDI inflow.

- ❖ Karnataka came in third, Delhi fourth and Telangana fifth with FDI inflows of \$6.6 billion, \$6.5 billion and \$3 billion, respectively.

Bioplastic Park by Uttar Pradesh

Uttar Pradesh Yogi Adityanath announced to Establish Rs 2000 Crore Bioplastic Park.

- This bioplastic park will be built in the Lakhimpur Kheri area.
- The bioplastic park is strategically located to leverage the area's agricultural strengths.
- Balrampur Chini Mill will oversee the project, highlighting a strong public-private partnership.

- ❖ Uttar Pradesh has sanctioned setting up a bioplastic park.
- ❖ The park will be developed over an area of 1,000 hectares in Kumbhi village, Gola Gokarannath tehsil, Lakhimpur Kheri district.
- ❖ Bioplastic, also known as natural plastic, is a type of plastic made from natural materials such as corn, sunflower, or sugar beet.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

National Literary Award 2024



- ❖ Tamil writer Sivashankari has been selected for Dr. C. Narayana Reddy National Literary Award.



- ❖ The Chennai-based writer has penned 36 novels, 48 mini-novels (navalikas), 150 stories, 15 travelogues, seven volumes of essays, four research papers and two biographies in Tamil.
- ❖ She won the 'Saraswati Samman' 2022 for her book of memoirs Surya Vamsam.

Frank Duckworth

- ❖ English statistician and one of the inventors of the Duckworth-Lewis-Stern (DLS) method, Frank Duckworth passed away recently.
- ❖ The Duckworth-Lewis method was devised by Duckworth and fellow statistician Tony Lewis.
- ❖ It was introduced to determine results in rain-affected cricket matches.
- ❖ The method was first used in international cricket in 1997.
- ❖ It was formally adopted by the ICC as the standard method for setting revised targets in truncated games in 2001.
- ❖ Later, some modifications made by Australian statistician Steven Stern.



IMPORTANT DAYS

World Zoonoses Day 2024 - July 06

- ❖ On July 6, 1885, French Biologist Louis Pasteur administered a rabies vaccine to a young boy who was bitten by a rabid dog.
- ❖ Zoonosis or Zoonotic diseases refer to the infections or infectious diseases that originate from animals.
- ❖ All the diseases that exist to date, about 60 percent of them are zoonotic in nature.



- ❖ About 70 percent of the emerging infections have their origin in animals.

