

July - 18

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Nagaland has been adjudged as the best state in Horticulture in the prestigious Agriculture Leadership Awards 2024.
- ❖ The Indian Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, participated in the 132nd session of the Council of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in London, England.
- ❖ Germany will phase out components made by Chinese companies Huawei and ZTE from its 5G wireless network over the next five years.

TAMIL NADU

Tamilnadu Awards to crafts persons and artisans 2024



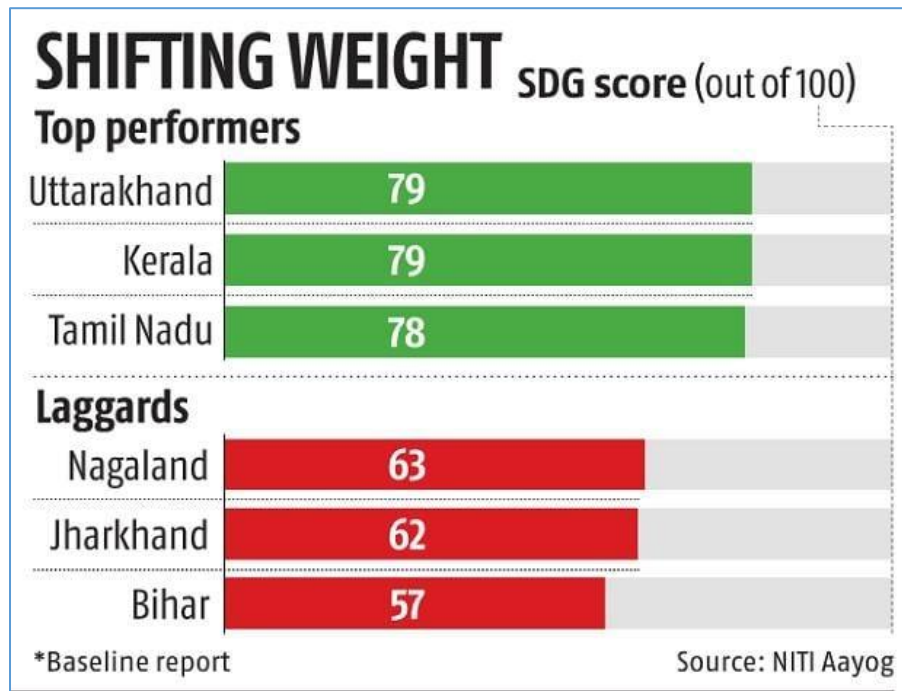
- ❖ The Chief Minister handed over various awards to craftpersons and artisans, who have excelled in their respective fields.
- ❖ He had handed over 'Living Craft Treasure' awards to eight best craftpersons and handed over Poompuhar State Awards to 10 best artisans.
- ❖ N. Balakrishnan, K.P. Umapathi, S. Rajagopal, N. Mani Achari, C. Muthusamy Achari, S. Govindharaj, B. Sulaikan Beevi and S. Thangajothi received the 'Living Craft Treasure' awards for 2022-23.



- ❖ The 'Living Craft Treasure Award' honours craftspersons of eminence, who are over 65 years or age.
- ❖ The Poompuhar State Awards are given to C. Ravi, S. Nagalakshmi, M. Rajappa, M. Murugesan, R. Loganathan, N. Poovammal, B. Varadhan, M. Rajarathinam, R. Sakthivel and S. Lilly Mary for 2022-23.
- ❖ These awards are given to 10 best artisans in the field who have contributed to the development of the crafts of Tamil Nadu every year.

NATIONAL

SDG Index 2024 – India

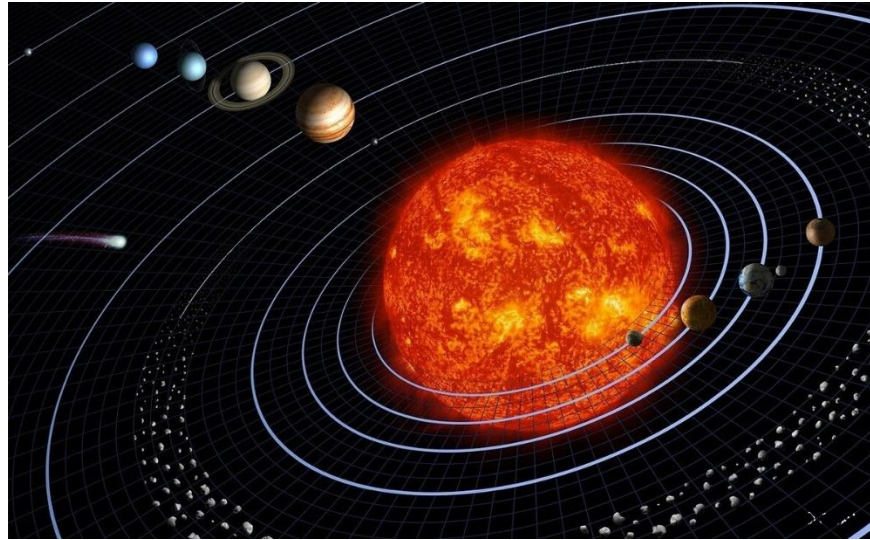


- ❖ Uttarakhand and Kerala have taken the top spot among states in NITI Aayog's SDG India Index 2023-24.
- ❖ Overall, India's SDG score improved to 71 points in 2023-24 from 66 points in 2020-21.
- ❖ Bihar emerged as a laggard with 57 points, followed by Jharkhand at 62 points.
- ❖ Compared to 2020-21 scores Punjab, Manipur, West Bengal, and Assam recorded the highest increase of 8 points to 76, 72, 70, and 65 points respectively.
- ❖ Among goals, "No Poverty", "Decent Work and Economic Growth", and "Life on Land" recorded the highest increase in points across states from 2020-21 scores.

- ❖ Goals like “Gender Equality” and “Peace, Justice, and Strong Institution” saw the smallest increase in points.
- ❖ Notably, “Reduced Inequalities” was the only goal to record a reduction in points to 65 in 2022-23 from 67 in 2020-21.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Earth Revolution around the Sun



- ❖ The movement of Earth currently in the Solar System is not currently orbiting the Sun.
- ❖ In the Solar System, the Sun is the largest object and has 1,048 times the mass of Jupiter.
- ❖ However, the gravitational pull which Earth exerts on the celestial body is exerted in the same or smaller amount on the planet.
- ❖ Kepler's third law describes the relationship between the masses of two objects mutually revolving around each other and the determination of orbital parameters.
- ❖ Earth orbits a barycentre and not exactly the Sun.
- ❖ Generally, the barycentre of the bodies in the Solar System is near the Sun.
- ❖ However, because of the mass, and influence of gas giants Jupiter and Saturn and orbits, it is rarely inside the Sun.
- ❖ Currently, the barycentre is outside the Sun and not inside it and hence, Earth is not currently orbiting it.
- ❖ So, the planet is revolving around a point in space and not the Sun.

- ❖ The Earth and Moon orbit a point which is 5,000 kilometres (3,100 miles) from the Earth's centre.
- ❖ However, this keeps changing as the Moon slowly moves away from the Earth.

Quasar's 'Einstein Ring'



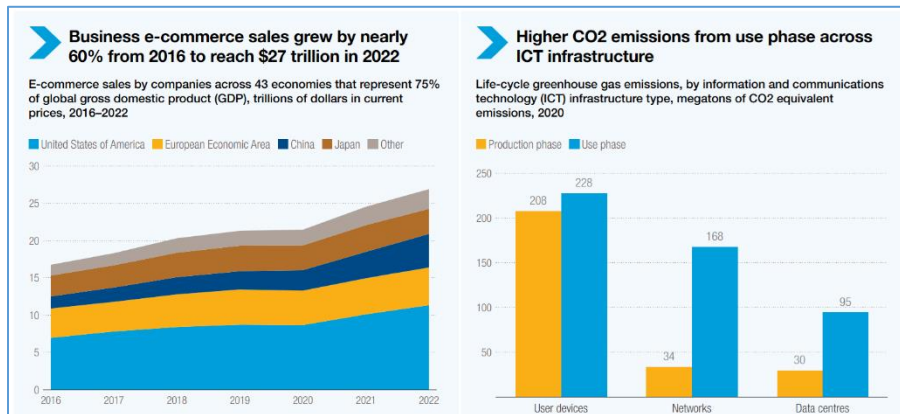
- ❖ Nasa's James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) has captured image of "bejewelled" halo of light, known as an Einstein ring, generated by a quasar.
- ❖ This quasar, RX J1131-1231, is located approximately 6 billion light-years from Earth in the constellation Crater.
- ❖ The Einstein ring, characterized by its luminous loop adorned with four bright spots, results from a phenomenon called gravitational lensing.
- ❖ Gravitational lensing occurs when the light from a distant object, travels through space-time that has been curved by the gravity of another massive object situated between the distant object and the observer.
- ❖ The concept of gravitational lensing was first predicted by Albert Einstein in his theory of general relativity in 1915.

REPORTS AND INDICES

Digital Economy Report 2024 - UNCTAD

- ❖ The Digital Economy Report 2024 underscores the urgent need for environmentally sustainable and inclusive digitalization strategies.
- ❖ Information and communications technology (ICT) networks account for an estimated 6% to 12% of global electricity use.

- ❖ Annual smartphone shipments have more than doubled since 2010, hitting 1.2 billion in 2023.
- ❖ Internet of things (IoT) devices are projected to surge 2.5 times from 2023 to 39 billion by 2029.
- ❖ New data from 43 countries, shows e-commerce sales grew nearly 60% from 2016 to 2022, to reach \$27 trillion.
- ❖ Waste from screens and small IT equipment rose 30% between 2010 and 2022, reaching 10.5 million tons.
- ❖ The ICT sector emitted an estimated 0.69 to 1.6 gigatons of CO2 equivalents in 2020, corresponding to 1.5% to 3.2% of global GHG emissions.
- ❖ Phones used 10 elements from the periodic table in 1960, 27 in 1990 and 63 in 2021.
- ❖ Demand for cobalt, graphite and lithium is expected to increase by 500% by 2050
- ❖ Worldwide, data centres are estimated to have consumed as much energy as France in 2022 – 460 terawatt-hours (TWh) of electricity.
- ❖ Bitcoin mining's global energy consumption rose 34 times between 2015 and 2023.
- ❖ Developing countries generate less than 1 kilogram of digitalization-related waste per person compared to 3.25 kilograms for developed countries.
- ❖ The global market for electronics recycling is expected to grow from \$37 billion in 2022 to an estimated \$108 billion by 2030.



STATES

Manjeera Wildlife Sanctuary - Telangana

- ❖ The 5,000-acre Manjeera wildlife sanctuary in Sanga Reddy could soon become Telangana's first Ramsar site.

- ❖ The sanctuary is home to over one lakh birds and more than 500 crocodiles.
- ❖ This recognition will help the wetland gain attraction as well as national and international cooperation for its conservation.

WEALTH OF WILDLIFE IN WETLAND



The Manjeera wildlife sanctuary is home to over one lakh birds

<p>➤ Extent of Manjeera wildlife sanctuary 20 sqkm</p> <p>➤ No. of islands along the sanctuary Nine</p>	<p>➤ No. of crocodiles 550</p> <p>➤ No. of bird species Over 200</p> <p>➤ No. of migratory species 110</p> <p>➤ Overall bird count 1 lakh</p> <p>➤ No. of reptiles 57, including snakes</p>
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Ratna Bhandar - Odisha



- ❖ The inner treasury of 12th century of Odisha's Puri Jagannath temple's 'Ratna Bhandar' was opened recently.
- ❖ The gates were opened after 46 years.

- ❖ The 'Ratna Bhandar' was first opened in 1905 by the British administration for inspection.
- ❖ Later they made a record of the items/jewels in 1926.
- ❖ After which it was opened in 1978 by the then Odisha Governor Bhagabat Dayal Sharma.

IMPORTANT DAYS

ICAR Foundation and Technology Day 2024 - July 16



- ❖ This year marks the 96th foundation day of Indian Council of Agricultural Research.
- ❖ ICAR was originally established as the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research in July 16, 1929 at Delhi.
- ❖ During 2023-24, total of 323 varieties across 56 crops were released by ICAR, including cereals, oilseeds, forage crops, and sugarcane.

