

July - 19

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ India will host the second Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation in September 2024.
- ❖ For first time, South Korea is hosting the biennial global conference on space research in Busan city.
- ❖ Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has launched the trial operation of the world's first electric abra manufactured using 3D printing technology.
- ❖ Nitish Singh from Uttar Pradesh, has achieved a remarkable feat by conquering Mount Kinabalu of Malaysia in an impressive time of 19 hours.
- ❖ The Jharkhand government is planning to establish eastern India's first university dedicated to physically challenged students in Ranchi.
- ❖ The 2nd Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) Foreign Ministers' meeting held in New Delhi.
- ❖ ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund has launched the ICICI Prudential Nifty Oil & Gas ETF, which is India's first exchange traded fund (ETF) in the oil and gas sector.

NATIONAL

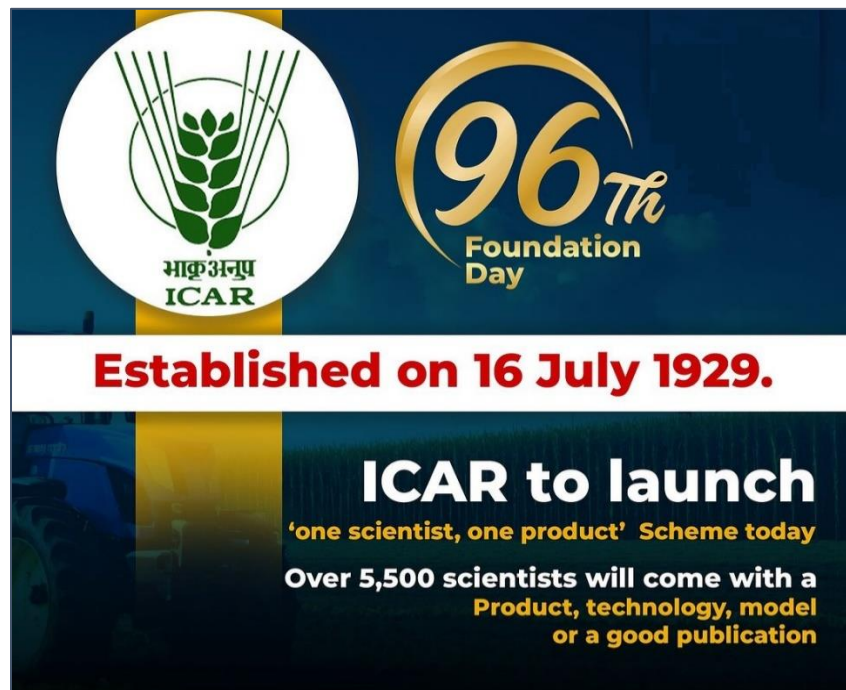
Five-Member Advisory Council of 16th FC

<h2>Finance Commission</h2>		
<p>Article 280 (Indian Constitution Part XII)</p> <p>Constitution of FC as a Quasi Judicial Body</p>	<p>Constituted by</p> <p>President of India quinquennially (or earlier)</p>	<p>Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chairman + 4 members (including an HC judge) – appointed by President • Authority to decide qualifications – Parliament • Tenure – as specified by the President • Reappointment – Eligible
<p>Makes Recommendations to President about</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribution of net tax proceeds between Centre and States • Principles for grants-in-aid to the states by the Centre • Evaluates the rise in the Consolidated Fund of a state to affix the resources of Panchayats/Municipalities • Other financial matters referred to it by President 		<p>Powers of a Civil Court</p> <p>As per Code of Civil Procedure 1908</p>
<p><i>*Recommendations of the FC are only advisory and not binding on the Government</i></p>		

- ❖ The Sixteenth Finance Commission, led by Arvind Panagariya, set up a five-member Advisory Council.
- ❖ It is aimed at expanding the scope of the Commission's work.

- ❖ This panel will be chaired by Poonam Gupta, who currently serves as the Director General of the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER).
- ❖ The other members are:
 - D.K. Srivastava
 - Neelkanth Mishra
 - Pranjul Bhandari
 - Rahul Bajoria.

‘One Scientist, One Product’ Scheme



- ❖ The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) launched its ‘One Scientist-One Product’ programme.
- ❖ It aims to improve research in the field of agriculture and animal husbandry.
- ❖ ICAR had given a target to all 5,521 scientists under the institution to come up with a product, a technology, a model, a concept or a good publication.
- ❖ At the beginning of every year, the scientist or a group of scientists will have to identify the product, and the ICAR will map the scientist’s or the group’s work.

Toll free helpline for Narcotics Crimes - 1933

- ❖ The first-ever national toll-free telephonic helpline along with an email was launched.

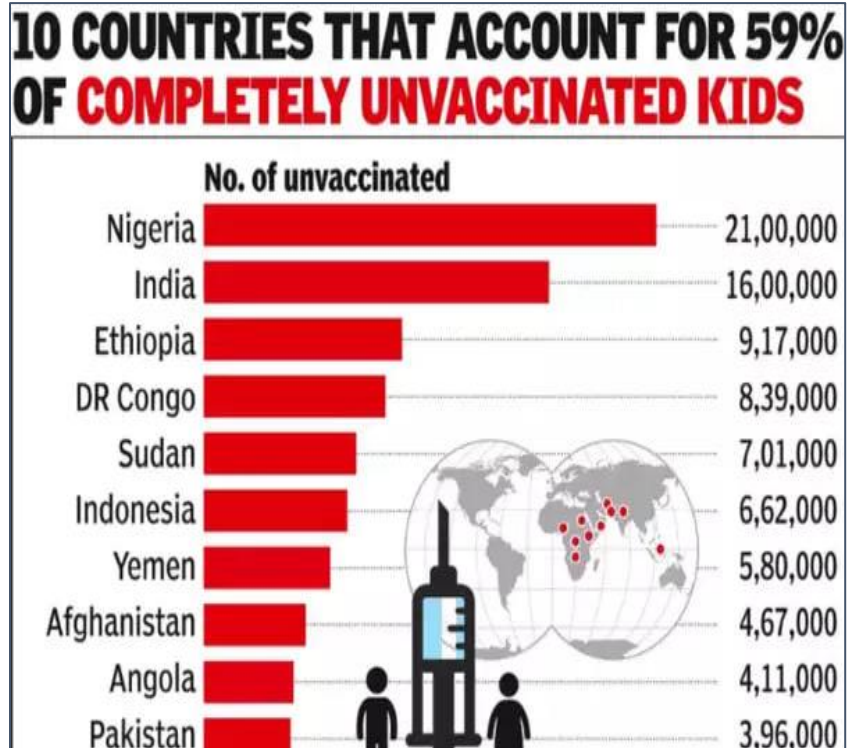
- ❖ The toll-free number for MANAS (National Narcotics helpline) is 1933 and the Email is info.ncbmanas@gov.in.
- ❖ It will allow any person to tip off the NCB about narcotics crimes and related issues.
- ❖ MANAS stands for 'Madak Padarth Nisedh Asuchna Kendra' or narcotics prohibition intelligence centre.



WHO-UNICEF report 2024

- ❖ India has the second highest number of kids who did not receive any vaccine at all in 2023.
- ❖ India has 1.6 million, just after Nigeria with 2.1 million "zero dose children".
- ❖ The number of completely unvaccinated children ("zero-dose") is slightly up from last year (by 600,000 from 13.9 million to 14.5 million).
- ❖ This number is still 1.7 million higher than in 2019.
- ❖ The total number of un- and under-immunised children stands at 21 million in 2023, 2.7 million above the baseline value.
- ❖ India also had the third highest number of "measles zero dose children", 1.6 million.
- ❖ Nigeria with 2.8 million and Democratic Republic of Congo with 2 million children took the top spots.

- ❖ India was among ten countries accounting for 55% of children without measles vaccines globally.



INTERNATIONAL

High efficacy malaria vaccine - Africa

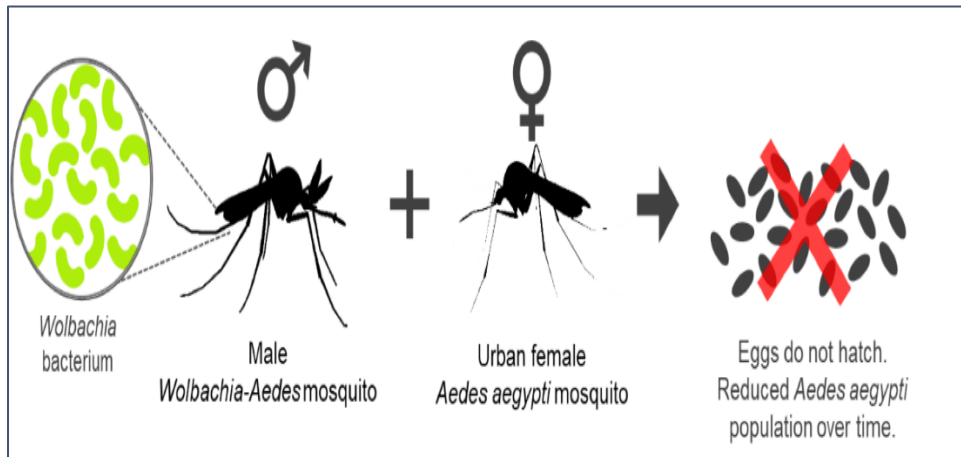


- ❖ The R21/Matrix-M malaria vaccine, co-developed by the Serum Institute of India (SII) and the University of Oxford, has been launched in Côte d'Ivoire.

- ❖ Cote d'Ivoire in West Africa became the first country to begin administering this vaccine.
- ❖ The number of malaria-related deaths has fallen from 3,222 in 2017 to 1,316 in 2020 in Cote d'Ivoire.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Wolbachia Bacteria

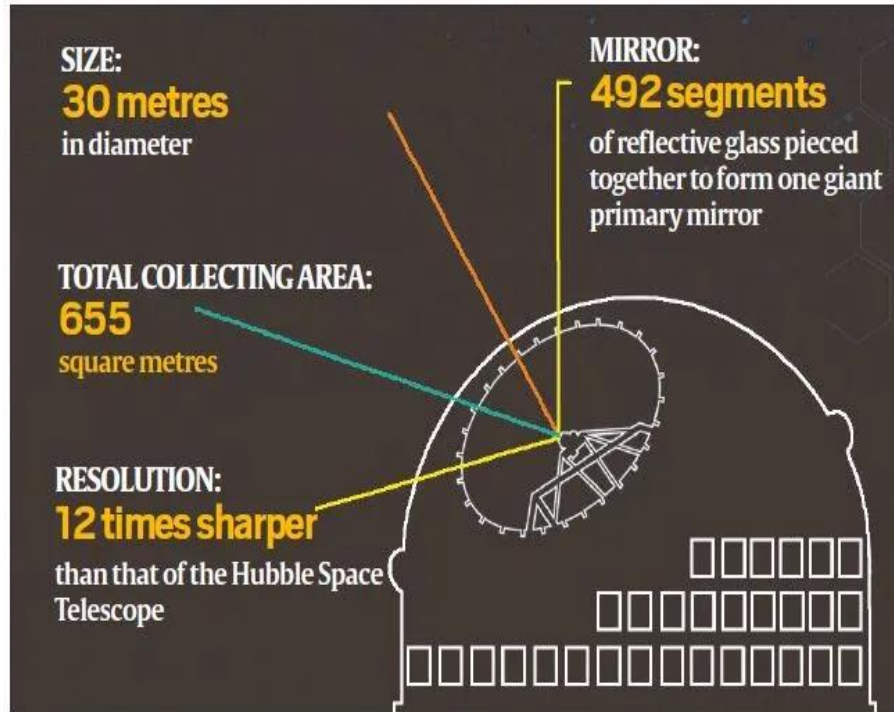


- ❖ A hundred years ago, two American researchers named Marshall Hertig and Simeon Burt Wolbach had discovered that mosquitoes harboured bacteria within their cells.
- ❖ Other researchers later found similar bacteria in the cells of most insects and many other arthropods.
- ❖ The genus to which the bacteria belonged was named *Wolbachia*.
- ❖ *Wolbachia* bacteria are also present in insect eggs but they are absent in the sperm.
- ❖ This means females can transmit *Wolbachia* to their offspring whereas males can't.
- ❖ *Encarsia formosa* wasps are of interest to agricultural scientists because they provide an efficient way to control whiteflies.

Open-source tool for Thirty Meter Telescope

- ❖ A team of Indian scientists developed an open-source tool designed to generate an infrared star catalogue.
- ❖ This tool is specifically created for the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT), a highly anticipated telescope.

- ❖ TMT is a planned telescope proposed to be built on Mauna Kea, on the island of Hawaii.



Hydrogen peroxide Nebulization

Important Statement From AAFA



IT IS DANGEROUS
to put hydrogen peroxide into
your nebulizer and breathe it in.

- ❖ Hydrogen peroxide, especially in concentrations higher than those typically found in household solutions (which are typically 3%), can be highly irritating to the respiratory tract.



- ❖ Nebulizing hydrogen peroxide can lead to inflammation of the airways, causing coughing, throat irritation, and potentially more severe respiratory distress.
- ❖ Inhalation of vapors, mists, or aerosols from concentrated solutions of hydrogen peroxide can cause significant morbidity.
- ❖ No odor threshold was located for hydrogen peroxide (the OSHA PEL is 1 ppm).

ENVIRONMENT

CITES's Report on Rosewoods

13 'high priority' species	
Species (Appendix)	Region
<i>Dalbergia cochinchinensis</i> (II)	Asia
<i>Dalbergia oliveri</i> (II)	Asia
<i>Dalbergia granadillo</i> (II)	North America and Central and South America and the Caribbean
<i>Dalbergia latifolia</i> (II)	Asia
<i>Dalbergia melanoxylon</i> (II)	Africa
<i>Dalbergia retusa</i> (II)	Central and South America and the Caribbean
<i>Dalbergia stevensonii</i> (II)	North America and Central and South America and the Caribbean
<i>Dalbergia tucurensis</i> (II)	North America and Central and South America and the Caribbean
<i>Guibourtia pellegriniana</i> (II)	Africa
<i>Guibourtia tessmannii</i> (II)	Africa
<i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i> (II)	Africa
<i>Pterocarpus santalinus</i> (II)	Asia
<i>Pterocarpus tinctorius</i> (II)	Africa

- Five species are native to Africa
- Four to Central and South America and the Caribbean
- Three to North America
- Four to Asia

- ❖ The report provides CITES-listed rosewood species' characteristics, ecosystem roles, regeneration rates, and threats.
- ❖ This information will help CITES parties make informed Non-Detriment Findings (NDFs).
- ❖ 'Rosewood' also called as "palisander" encompasses a wide range of tropical hardwoods in the Fabaceae (Leguminosae) family.
- ❖ CITES also issued guidelines for the sustainable harvest and trade of rosewood specimens.
- ❖ Appendix II of CITES include:

- *Dalbergia latifolia* (Malabar rosewood) and *Dalbergia Sissoo* (Shisham) are found in India and are listed as Vulnerable and Least Concern on IUCN red list.
- African rosewood is listed as endangered on IUCN red list.

STATES

Child Labour Free Mica mine



- ❖ The Apex child rights body NCPDR had declared mica mines in Jharkhand 'child labour-free'.
- ❖ More than 20,000 kids were previously engaged as child labour in these mines.
- ❖ Kailash Satyarthi's non-profit organisation Bachpan Bachao Andolan (BBA), has spearheaded the 'Child Labour-Free Mica' campaign.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Day for International Justice 2024 - July 17

- ❖ This day is dedicated to promoting international criminal justice and honouring the fight against impunity for criminals for serious crimes affecting the international community.
- ❖ On this day in 1998, the Statue of Rome was adopted and the International Criminal Court (ICC) was established.
- ❖ The ICC is the first permanent international court that prosecutes individuals involved in genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and crimes of aggression.



- ❖ The legal foundation for the establishment of the International Criminal Court (ICC) came into force on July 1, 2002.
- ❖ The headquarters of ICC is located in The Hague, Netherlands.
- ❖ It operates independently from the United Nations.

