

July - 28

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Nita Ambani has been unanimously re-elected as a member of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) from India.
- ❖ Aizawl, the capital of Mizoram, is set to become the fourth state capital in North east India to have a direct rail link by next year.
- ❖ Asia's first health research-related "Pre-clinical Network Facility" under the Coalition of Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) was inaugurated at Faridabad, Haryana.
- ❖ India's Chandrayaan-3 won the prestigious World Space Award for its remarkable contributions to space exploration.
 - The award is presented by the International Astronautical Federation (IAF).
- ❖ Indian tennis stars Leander Paes and Vijay Amritraj were formally inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame as its 265th and 267th members.
 - Thus, they became the first two exponents of the sport from Asia to be inducted into the International Hall of Fame.
- ❖ The Meghalaya government launched Hello Meghalaya, an Over-The-Top (OTT) platform to promote content creators and musicians of Meghalaya.
 - It is the second state in the country to launch such an initiative after Kerala.

TAMIL NADU

Tamil Pudhalvan scheme 2024



- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has expanded the scope of Tamil Pudhalvan scheme.

- ❖ Now, it also covers students who studied in the Tamil medium in government-aided schools across the State.
- ❖ The Govt sanctioned financial approval to the tune of ₹360 crore for the Tamil Pudhalvan scheme.
- ❖ Over 3.28 lakh boys are expected to benefit from the scheme during 2024-25.
- ❖ It is similar to the Pudhumai Penn scheme that provides a monthly assistance of ₹1,000 to each of the girls who have studied Classes VI-XII in State government schools and are pursuing higher education.

NATIONAL

Data of Poshan Tracker June 2024



- ❖ About 17% of children in the age group of 0-5 years are underweight, while 36% are stunted and 6% are wasted.
- ❖ Around 8.57 crore children under 6 years were measured.
- ❖ Out of whom 35% were found to be stunted, only 17% were found to be underweight and only 6% children under 5 years were found to be wasted.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh exhibits the highest stunting rate at 46.36%, closely followed by Lakshadweep at 46.31%.
- ❖ Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh also report alarming stunting rates at 44.59% and 41.61%, respectively.
- ❖ Wasting is most severe in Lakshadweep, with 13.22% of children affected.
- ❖ Bihar and Gujarat also show the high wasting rates at 9.81% and 9.16%, respectively.
- ❖ In terms of underweight children, Madhya Pradesh leads with 26.21%, followed by Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu at 26.41%.

- ❖ Lakshadweep again shows a rate of 23.25%.
- ❖ Goa reports the lowest stunting rate at 5.84%, wasting at 0.85%, and underweight children at 2.18%.

PM Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyaan

- ❖ The Pradhan Mantri Jatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan aims to improve the socio-economic conditions of tribal communities.
- ❖ The initiative aims to provide full coverage for tribal households in tribal majority villages and aspirational districts.
- ❖ It will be covering 63,000 villages and benefitting 5 crore tribal people.

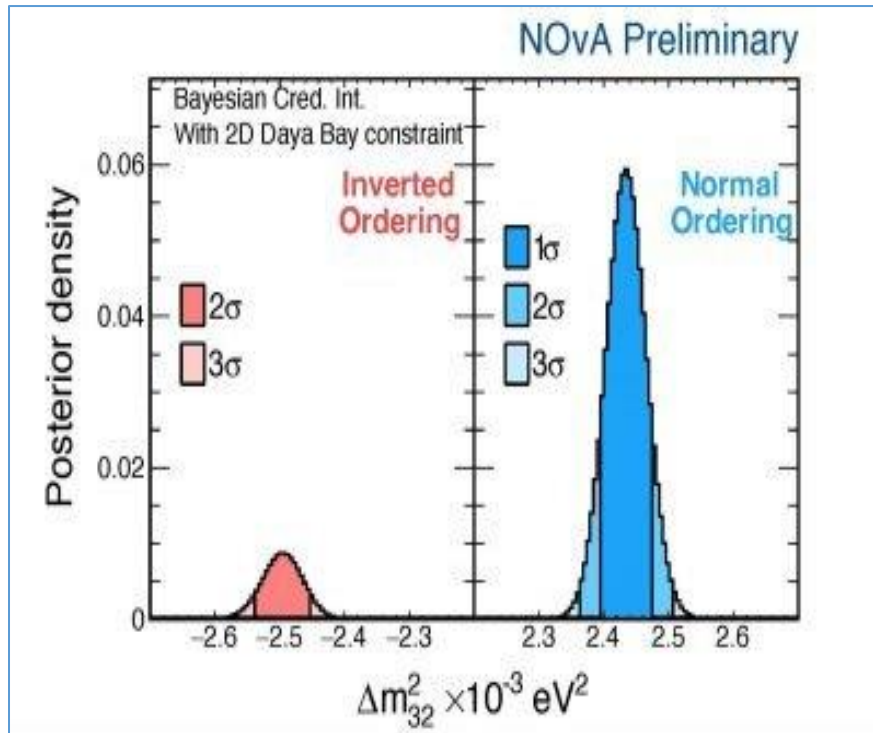


SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

New NOvA data

- ❖ NovA is an acronym for 'NuMI Off-axis ν e Appearance'.
- ❖ It creates a beam of neutrinos that fly towards a 14,000-tonne detector located 800 km away.
- ❖ NOvA was designed to determine the role of neutrinos in the evolution of the cosmos.
- ❖ Neutrinos are a type of subatomic particle.
- ❖ They don't have an electric charge, have a small mass, and are left-handed.

- ❖ They are the second-most abundant particles after photons.
- ❖ Physicists first detected extraterrestrial neutrinos coming from a supernova in 1987, when a star exploded around 150,000 light years away.



ENVIRONMENT

New flower flies in India



- ❖ Researchers have reported two species of flower flies for the first time from Kerala.



- ❖ *Mesembrius bengalensis* and *M. quadrivittatus* have been discovered from the Kole wetlands and Vilagan Kunnu hillocks of Thrissur district.
- ❖ Flower flies belong to the family Syrphidae of order Diptera and are commonly called flower flies.
- ❖ These new records add two more species to the existing list.

STATES

GEP index for environment – Uttarakhand

Gross Environmental Product (GEP) Index

- ▲ Uttarakhand government released the GEP index.
 - It became the first state in the country to launch it.
- ▲ This index is based on parameters like water, forest, land and air quality.
- ▲ It takes into account the economic value of the ecosystem in GDP.
- ▲ It aims to establish harmony between ecology and economy.

- ❖ Uttarakhand has become the first state in the country to assign monetary value to four of its natural resources termed as gross environment product (GEP).
- ❖ The GEP Index assesses the environmental quality based on the four main components:
 - **Water:** Evaluates the quality and availability of water resources in the state.
 - **Air:** Measures air quality and the impact of pollution on the environment and public health.
 - **Forest:** Assesses forest cover, biodiversity, and the health of forest ecosystems.
 - **Soil:** Examines soil health, including fertility and the impact of erosion and degradation.

- ❖ The GEP index reflects comparative data from 2020 to 2022 and shows a 0.9% increase.

SPORTS

Olympics 2024

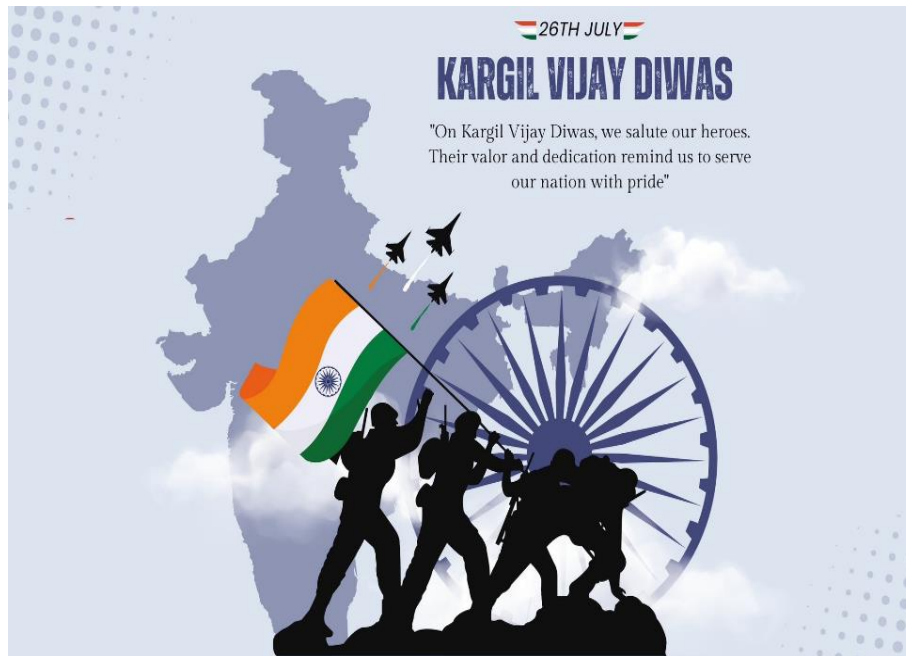


- ❖ The 2024 Summer Olympics is held from July 26 to August 11 this year at Paris, France.
- ❖ This is the third time Paris is hosting the Summer Olympics, almost a century after it last hosted in 1924.
- ❖ About 5804 medals will be distributed during the Games.
- ❖ London is the only other city to have hosted the Games three times (in 1908, 1948, and 2012).
- ❖ The Games will feature 329 events in 32 sports.
- ❖ It is including the 28 "core" Olympic sports contested in 2016 and 2020, and four optional sports that were proposed by the Paris Organising Committee.
- ❖ For the first time that the opening ceremony for an edition of the Summer Olympics is held out of the traditional setting of an Olympic Stadium.
- ❖ Both Olympic and Paralympic medals carry a piece of iron from the Eiffel Tower, which was recovered during a recent renovation.
- ❖ Russia and Belarus are banned from the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris due to their involvement in the ongoing Ukraine war.

- ❖ But 15 athletes from Russia and 18 from Belarus are set to compete as “Individual Neutral Athletes” or AINs.
- ❖ Competing under the AIN means that Russian and Belarusian flags, national anthems and uniforms will not be allowed at the Paris Games.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Kargil Vijay Diwas 2024 - July 26



- ❖ It is observed to pay tribute to the bravery of Indian soldiers who sacrificed their lives for the country during the Kargil War of 1999.
- ❖ This year is marking the 25th anniversary of India’s victory in the Kargil War.
- ❖ The infiltration was discovered in May 1999, prompting the Indian Army to launch Operation Vijay.
- ❖ The Indian soldiers secured this victory after a three-month conflict on July 26, 1999.

World Hepatitis Day 2024 - July 28

- ❖ This day is observed to raising awareness about hepatitis, promoting prevention, testing, and treatment, and advocating for better public health policies to combat the disease.
- ❖ Hepatitis is an inflammation of the liver, often caused by viral infections.

- ❖ It is also due to other factors such as alcohol consumption, certain medications, and autoimmune diseases.
- ❖ The main types of viral hepatitis are hepatitis A, B, C, D, and E which each with different modes of transmission and potential health impacts.
- ❖ An estimated 304 million people worldwide live with hepatitis B or C.
- ❖ This year's theme is "It's time for action".

