

July - 31

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Tamil Nadu chief minister presented social welfare department's best transgender award for 2024 to Sandya Devi of Kanyakumari.
 - She has performed more than 1000 villu paattu (bow-song) programmes, creating awareness on Covid-19, dowry harassments and violence against women.
- ❖ Rajamundry Airport in Andhra has topped in the Customer Satisfaction Survey from January to June 2024 among 61 airports in the country.
 - It is followed by Kangra Airport (second), Leh (third), Madurai (fourth).
- ❖ Vriksharopan Abhiyan 2024 was launched as the part of "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" program and took place in 300 places in 47 districts across 11 coal- and lignite-rich states.
- ❖ Rajendra Singh, the Head of the Department of National Disaster Management Authority, assumed the chairmanship of the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center.
- ❖ India's first integrated agri-export facility will come up at Jawaharlal Nehru Port, Mumbai.
- ❖ The Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) has been converted into an "attached office" of the Ministry of Home Affairs since July 1.
- ❖ The International Olympic Committee (IOC) decided to create Olympic E-sports Games.
 - The first edition will be held in 2025 in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- ❖ India and the U.S. have signed a cultural property agreement aimed at enhancing cooperation to protect cultural heritage of the two countries.
 - It aims to prevent the illegal trade of cultural property and simplify the process by which looted and stolen antiquities may be returned to their country of origin.

NATIONAL

India's Nuclear Power Capacity 2031-32

- ❖ The present installed nuclear power capacity is set to increase from 8180 MW to 22480 MW by 2031-32.
- ❖ Atomic Energy has been more than a 70 percent surge in India's nuclear power capacity in the last 10 years.

- ❖ It was increasing from 4,780 MW in 2013-14 to 8,180 MW at present.
- ❖ The annual electricity generation from nuclear power plants has also increased from 34,228 million units in 2013-14 to 47,971 million units in 2023-24.

India's installed nuclear power capacity set to triple by 2031-32

India's installed Nuclear Power Capacity is set to triple by 2031-32. The present installed nuclear power capacity is set to increase from 8180 MW to 22480 MW by 2031-32" stated Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Earth Sciences, MoS PMO, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space and MoS Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Jitendra Singh in a written reply to an unstarred question in Rajya Sabha.



INTERNATIONAL

Exercise KHAAN QUEST 2024



- ❖ The Indian Army contingent participated in the Multinational Military Exercise 'Khaan Quest' 2024 at Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

- ❖ The exercise first started as a bilateral event between the USA and the Mongolian Armed Forces in 2003.
- ❖ From 2006 onwards, it evolved into a multinational peacekeeping exercise, with this year marking the 21st iteration.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Talwar Class frigate

- ❖ The first indigenously built Talwar Class frigate, 'INS Tripud', was launched by the Goa Shipyard Limited.
- ❖ The ship has been named Tripud, after the mighty arrow.
- ❖ The frigate is equipped with Brahmos missiles and the Shtil-1 air defense system.
- ❖ The second ship - Tamal will be delivered by February 2025.
- ❖ India had contracted four frigates from Russia in October 2016, two of them to be built in Russia and two at the Goa Shipyard.



Phase-II Ballistic Missile Defense System 2024

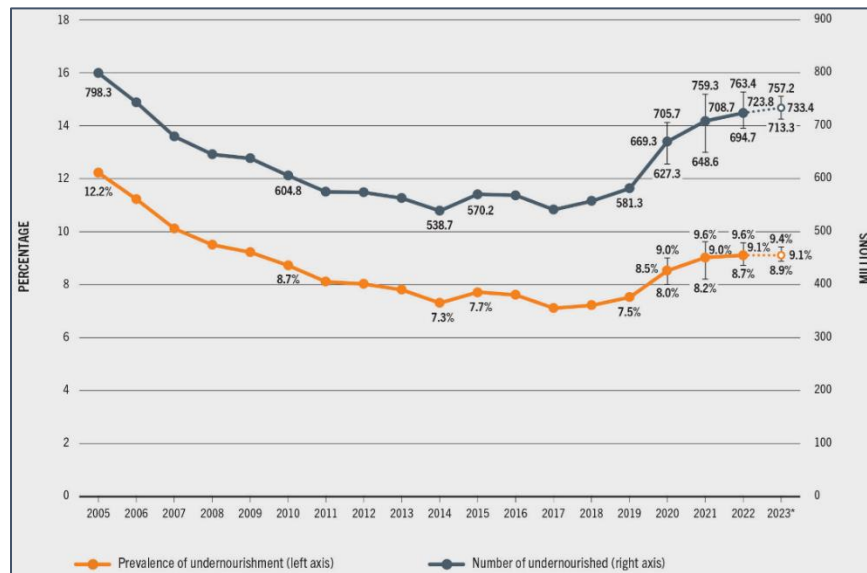
- ❖ The DRDO successfully flight-tested the Phase-II Ballistic Missile Defence (BMD) system.
- ❖ It demonstrates the indigenous capability to defend against ballistic missiles of 5,000 km class.

- ❖ The Phase-II AD endo-atmospheric missile is an indigenously developed two stage solid propelled ground launched missile.
- ❖ Phase 1 of the BMD, which can intercept ballistic missiles with a range of 2,000 km, has already been deployed.



REPORTS AND INDICES

State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2024

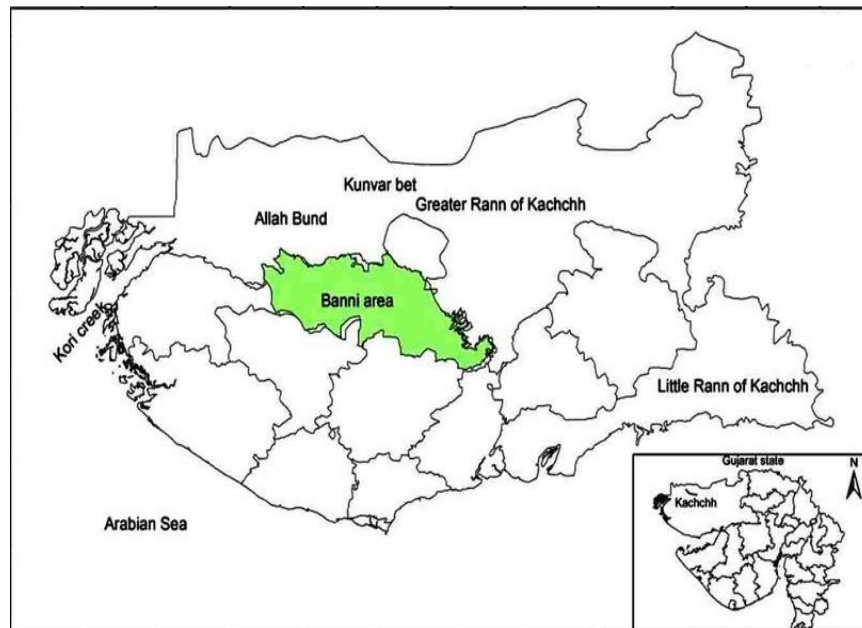


- ❖ Around 733 million people or 1 in 11 people faced hunger globally in 2023.
- ❖ The world is far off track to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2, Zero Hunger.
- ❖ Between 713 and 757 million people were estimated to be undernourished in 2023.

- ❖ This is approximately 152 million more than in 2019 when considering the mid-range (733 million).
- ❖ An estimated 28.9 percent of the global population were moderately or severely food insecure in 2023.
- ❖ The percentage of the population facing hunger continues to rise in Africa (20.4 percent), remains stable in Asia (8.1 percent) and shows progress in Latin America (6.2 percent).
- ❖ In 2023, around 2.33 billion people globally faced moderate or severe food insecurity.
- ❖ The estimates of adult obesity show a steady increase over the last decade, from 12.1 percent (2012) to 15.8 percent (2022).

STATES

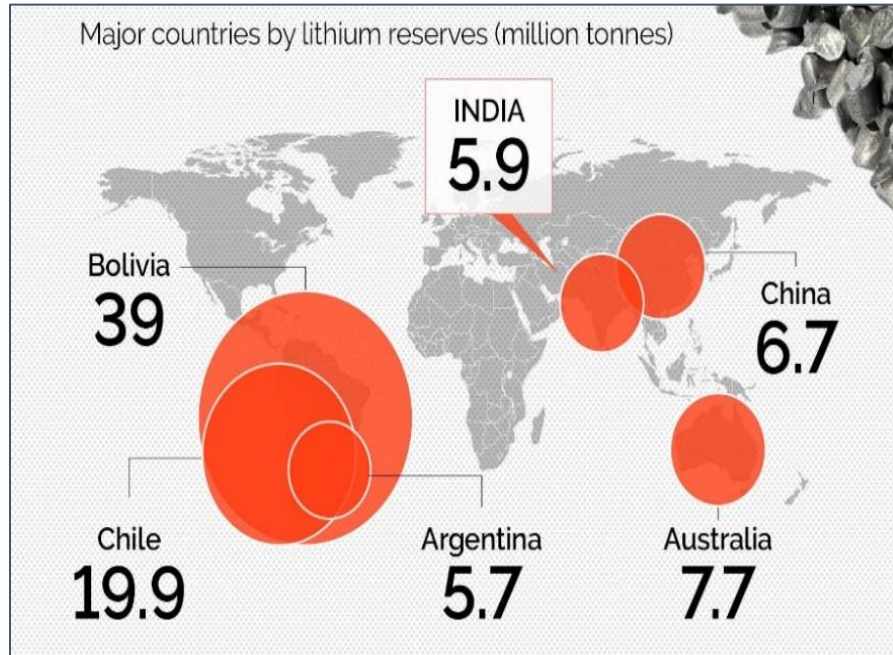
Project Cheetah - Banni grasslands



- ❖ Some of the next batch of cheetahs being brought in from Africa, as part of the next phase of Project Cheetah, be sent to a cheetah-breeding and conservation centre in grasslands of Banni in the Rann of Kutch in Gujarat.
- ❖ The Gandhi Sagar sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh is the preferred location for the next lot of wild cats, and Banni has been considered as a potential habitat for over a decade.
- ❖ Banni is a vast grassland in the northern part of Kutch and extends to nearly 3,500 square kilometres.

- ❖ Of the 20 adult cheetahs brought to Kuno since September 2022, 13 are surviving in Indian conditions.
- ❖ Additionally, there are 13 cubs making it 26 animals overall.
- ❖ However, the maximum capacity (in terms of available prey) of the Kuno reserve is for 21 adult animals.

Discovery of Lithium Resources – Karnataka



- ❖ 1,600 tonnes of lithium resources have been found in Karnataka's Mandya and Yadgiri districts.
- ❖ This discovery was made through the initial surveys and some subsurface exploration.
- ❖ Lithium, an element on the periodic table, is highly valuable worldwide.
- ❖ It was discovered in 1817 by Johan August Arfvedson, its name comes from the Greek word lithos, meaning stone.
- ❖ Lithium is the lightest metal, reacts strongly with water, and can be toxic.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Rajbhasha Gaurav Samman 2023-24 Award

- ❖ The Town Official Language Implementation Committee - TOLIC (PSU), Visakhapatnam meeting was hosted by NTPC.

- ❖ TOLIC awarded prizes across three categories based on performance in the implementation of Hindi:
 - HPCL-Visakha Refinery won First Prize in Category I.
 - HPCL's various team won 2nd prize in Category II and III.
 - GAIL won First Prize in Category II.



10th National Community Radio Awards

- ❖ The Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (I&B), has announced the winners of the 10th National Community Radio Awards.
- ❖ India's 500th Community Radio Station, 'Apna Radio 90.0 FM,' operated by the Indian Institute of Mass Communication in Aizawl of Mizoram also inaugurated.
- ❖ The awards were distributed in various categories:

Category	Radio	Program
Thematic Award	Radio Mayur, Bihar	Tech Sakhi
	Radio Kochi, Kerala	Nirangal
	Hello Doon, Uttarakhand	Meri Baat
Most Innovative Community Engagement Award	Yerlawani Sangli, Maharashtra	Kahani Sunandachi
	Vaylaga Vanoli, Tamil Nadu	Let's Build a New Norm
	Salaam Namaste, Uttar Pradesh	Maid Didi
Promoting Local Culture Award	Radio BrahmaputraRadio Brahmaputra, Assam	Igarekun
	Radio Kotagiri, Tamil Nadu	En Makkaludan Oru Payanam
	Radio Active, Bihar	Ang Pradesh ki Adbut Dharohar'
Sustainability Model Award	Radio Benziger, Kerala	
	Radio Namaskar, Odisha	
	Radio Antarwani, Karnataka	

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Nature Conservation Day 2024 - July 28

- ❖ It aims to protect the biodiversity and natural resources for present and future generations.

- ❖ It promotes teamwork to defend ecosystems against hazards like pollution and climate change, guaranteeing a safe environment for coming generations.
- ❖ The theme for 2024 is “Connecting People and Plants, Exploring the Digital Innovation in Wildlife Conservation.”



World Day against Trafficking in Persons 2024 - July 30



- ❖ It aims to raise awareness about human trafficking trends as identified by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).
- ❖ Women and girls make up the majority of victims, accounting for 42 and 18 per cent, respectively.
- ❖ 1 in 3 victims of human trafficking globally is a child.
- ❖ This year's theme is “Leave No Child Behind in the Fight Against the Human Trafficking”.

World Ranger Day - July 31

- ❖ This day commemorates the Rangers killed or injured in the line of duty and to celebrate the work Rangers do to protect the planet's natural treasures and cultural heritage.

- ❖ The 2024 World Ranger Day theme is '30 by 30'.
- ❖ It means at least 30 per cent of the planet is effectively conserved and managed by 2030.



MISCELLANEOUS

RTI for Cheetah Management

EXEMPTIONS FROM DISCLOSURE

SECTION (8) :

8(1)

- (a) Which affect the sovereignty and integrity of India. Security, strategic, scientific or economic interests of the state, relation with foreign state, lead to incitement of offence.
- (b) expressly forbidden to be published by any court of law/ disclosure of which may constitute contempt of court.
- (c) cause a breach of privilege of Parliament or state legislative.

- ❖ The Madhya Pradesh forest department has denied a request for information on the management of cheetahs brought from Africa and their cubs born in India.
- ❖ Wildlife activist Ajay Dubey had filed a Right to Information (RTI) request seeking correspondence records on Project Cheetah in Kuno and Mandsaur.



- ❖ However, the department refused to disclose the information, invoking Section 8(1)(a) of the RTI Act.
- ❖ This is the first-time information on Project Cheetah has been denied under the RTI Act since its launch in 2022.
- ❖ At present, Kuno is home to 26 cheetahs and cubs, as part of Project Cheetah.

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