

June - 19

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ For the first in India, the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) disbursed ₹1 crore each as Accident Insurance Relief Compensation to the dependents of four employees who lost their lives in the line of duty.
- ❖ An international conference on Generative Artificial Intelligence (Gen AI) will be held in Kochi.
- ❖ Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) and Sansad TV signed an agreement to make Indian art and culture more accessible.
- ❖ The Assam government started the Mukhya Mantri Nijut Moina (MMNM) scheme to help girls go to school and stop them from getting married young.
- ❖ DRDO has successfully developed an AI tool “Divya Drishti” that integrates face recognition with immutable physiological parameters such as gait and skeleton.
- ❖ Shruti Vora has created history by becoming the first Indian to win a three-star Grand Prix equestrian event, by won at the FEI Dressage World Cup held in Lipica, Slovenia.
- ❖ The South African parliament has re-elected Cyril Ramaphosa, as the President of South Africa.
- ❖ The World Health Organisation (WHO) has designated National Institute of Indian Medical Heritage (NIIMH) in Hyderabad, as a 3rd Indian WHO Collaborating Centre (CC) for traditional medicine research.
 - Earlier it had designated the Institute for Teaching & Research in Ayurveda, Jamnagar, and the Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY), New Delhi.

TAMIL NADU

Method of doping potassium













- ❖ The Madras High Court has held that, IIT Madras method of doping potassium into ammonium perchlorate lacks an inventive step and therefore not eligible for patent.
- ❖ This method is used for increasing the burn rates in solid propellants that are used in space and defence applications.
- ❖ The claimed invention employs the dissolution, filtration, heating, drying and reheating.

- ❖ So, it was not patentable since the processes were well known and they do not result in a new product.



NATIONAL

GREAT Scheme

	Agrotech Horticulture + landscape gardening, agriculture + forestry, animal keeping		Meditech Hygiene, medicine
	Buildtech Membrane, lightweight + massive construction, engineering + industrial building.		Mobiltech Cars, ships, aircraft, trains, space travel
	Clothtech Garments, shoes		Oekotech Environmental protection, recycling, waste disposal
	Geotech Road infrastructure, Railways, Irrigation and Hydraulic structures, Waste Landfills, Dams etc.		Packtech Packaging, protective-cover systems, sacks, big bags, container systems
	Homotech Furniture, upholstery + interior furnishing, rugs, floor coverings		Protech Person and property protection
	Indutech Filtration, cleaning, mechanical engineering, chemical industry		Sporttech Sport and leisure, active wear, outdoor, sport articles.

- ❖ The Empowered Programme Committee of Ministry of Textiles has approved 7 startup proposals under the GREAT scheme.
- ❖ The Government is providing a maximum fund support of Rs 50 lakhs per startup, over 18 months.

- ❖ GREAT stands for Grant for Research and Entrepreneurship across Aspiring Innovators in Technical Textiles (GREAT).
- ❖ It is part of the National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM).
- ❖ The scheme aims to harness India's talent and expertise in the technical textiles sector to introduce innovative products and technologies to the market.

INTERNATIONAL

Ukraine meet statement

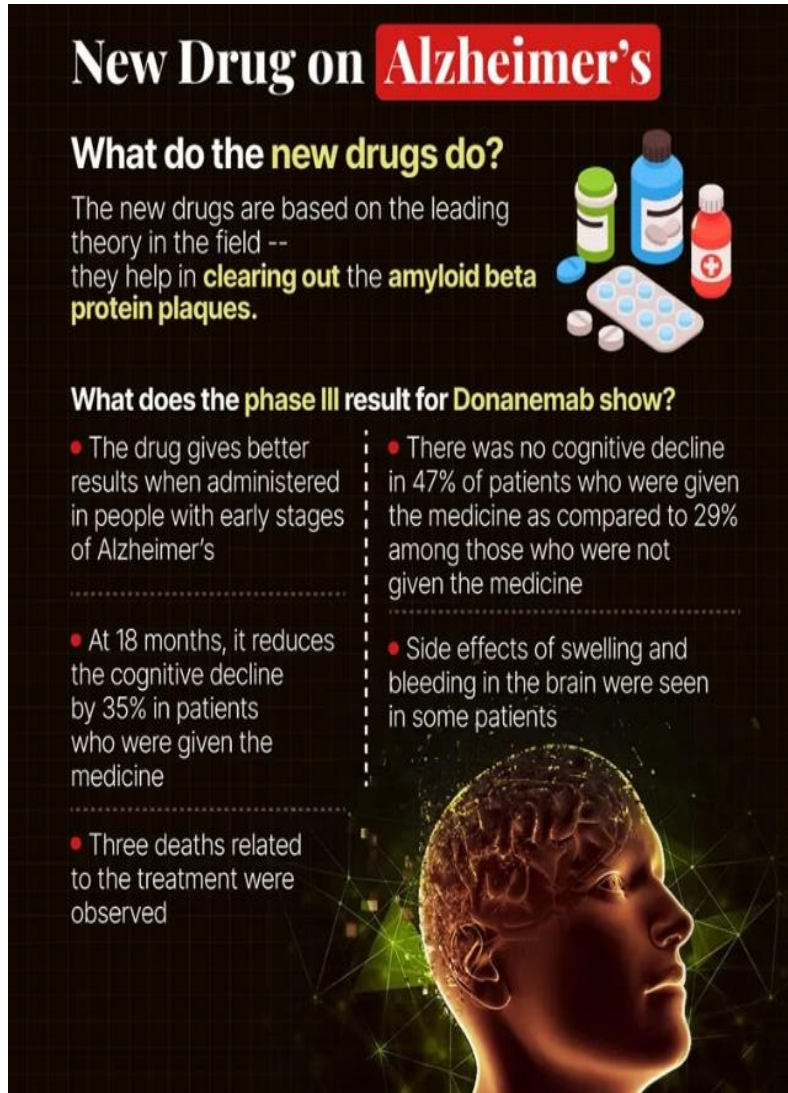
- ❖ India refuses to endorse final document issued at the conclusion of a Peace Summit in Switzerland.
- ❖ India was among at least seven countries that refused to endorse the “Joint Communique on a Peace Framework” released in Burgenstock, Switzerland.
- ❖ The communique, called for the protection of Ukraine's “territorial integrity”, was built on Ukraine's peace formula, and the UN charter and resolutions thus far was signed by more than 80 countries.
- ❖ Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Thailand, Indonesia, Mexico and the United Arab Emirates were among other countries that refused to sign the communique.
- ❖ Brazil has maintained an observer status, and China declined the invitation to participate altogether.



New Alzheimer's drug

- ❖ Independent advisers committee to the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) gave nod to the new Alzheimer's drug - Donanemab.


- ❖ Donanemab is a monoclonal antibody that targets amyloid beta protein plaques in the brain.
- ❖ Though the therapy slows down the progression of the disease, it does not ultimately treat the disease.
- ❖ Alzheimer's disease has multiple modalities and we would need various therapies.



New Drug on Alzheimer's


What do the new drugs do?

The new drugs are based on the leading theory in the field -- they help in **clearing out** the **amyloid beta protein plaques**.



What does the phase III result for Donanemab show?

- The drug gives better results when administered in people with early stages of Alzheimer's
- At 18 months, it reduces the cognitive decline by 35% in patients who were given the medicine
- Three deaths related to the treatment were observed
- There was no cognitive decline in 47% of patients who were given the medicine as compared to 29% among those who were not given the medicine
- Side effects of swelling and bleeding in the brain were seen in some patients



REPORTS AND INDICES

THE University impact rankings 2024

- ❖ THE evaluated 2,152 universities from 125 countries/regions for the overall Impact Ranking for 2024.

- ❖ With 96 institutions, India is the most-represented nation, followed closely by Turkey (91) and Pakistan (89).
- ❖ Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham is placed at the 81st position tops from India.
- ❖ Chennai's Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences placed in 201-300 band.
- ❖ Australia's Western Sydney University tops the list for the third consecutive year.
- ❖ The UK's University of Manchester and Australia's University of Tasmania follow joint second.
- ❖ The UK, for example, is home to several top performers for responsible consumption and production (SDG 12).
- ❖ South Korea is particularly active when it comes to decent work and economic growth (SDG 8).



Prime global cities index

- ❖ In the last 12 months, Mumbai witnessed a 11.5% rise in luxury real estate prices, reaching the third spot globally, after Manila and Tokyo.
- ❖ Delhi's prime residential prices soared by 10.5% in the last year.
- ❖ It is finding fifth spot on property consultant Knight Frank's prime global cities index.

- ❖ At the top of the table is Manila with 26.2% annual growth, followed by Tokyo at 12.5%.
- ❖ In fourth place is Perth, at 11.1%.

The Knight Frank Prime Global Cities Index Q1 2024
Ranked by annual % change

Rank/City	12-month % change	6-month % change	3-month % change
1 PH Manila	26.2	6.0	4.6
2 JP Tokyo	12.5	8.3	-2.1
3 IN Mumbai	11.5	6.7	1.5
4 AU Perth	11.1	7.9	5.6
5 IN Delhi	10.5	6.4	6.3
6 KR Seoul	9.6	-5.1	0.1
7 NZ Christchurch	9.1	2.6	1.2
8 AE Dubai	8.6	-2.7	4.2
9 US Los Angeles	8.3	1.5	0.4
10 ES Madrid	7.6	3.0	1.3

IMPORTANT DAYS

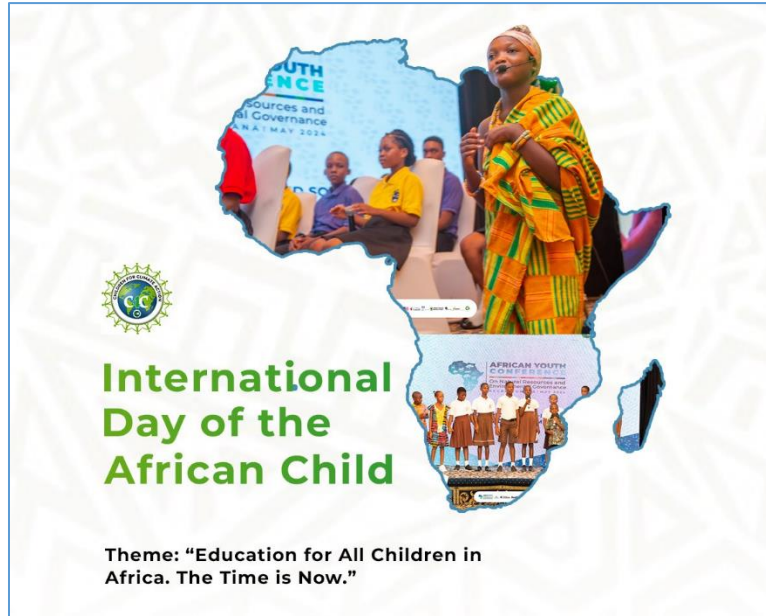
ASEAN Dengue Day 2024 - June 15



- ❖ This day is observed to create awareness on dengue prevention and control at the regional and National level.
- ❖ The 10th ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting 2010 was declared this day.

- ❖ This year's theme is "Together Against Dengue: Building a Resilient ASEAN Community."
- ❖ Recently the 7th Asia Dengue Summit was held in Kuala Lumpur.

International Day of the African Child 2024 - June 16



- ❖ The day was set aside to raise awareness of the importance of education for children in Africa.
- ❖ It conveys the imperative need for improvement of the education of African children.
- ❖ The day honours the participants of the Soweto Uprising in 1976.
- ❖ They protest for the prevailing disparity in the education system that preferred quality education for the whites over the black population in Africa.
- ❖ Theme of 2024 is: "Education for All Children in Africa: The Time is Now"

International Day of Family Remittances 2024 - June 16

- ❖ In 2008, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the World Bank jointly observed this day.
- ❖ In 2015, the United Nations General Assembly officially established this day.
- ❖ This special day honours the contributions of over 200 million migrants who support their 800 million family members back home.

- ❖ The theme of 2024 is “Digital remittances towards financial inclusion and cost reduction”.



World Day to Combat and Desertification and Drought 2024 - June 17

- ❖ During the 1992 Rio Earth Summit, desertification, loss of biodiversity and climate change were recognised as the greatest challenges to sustainable development.
- ❖ In 1994, the UN General Assembly established the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) - the legally binding international agreement
- ❖ In 2007, the UN General Assembly declared 2010-2020 the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the fight against Desertification
- ❖ This year's theme is “United for Land. Our Legacy. Our Future”.

