

September - 11

TNPSC BITS

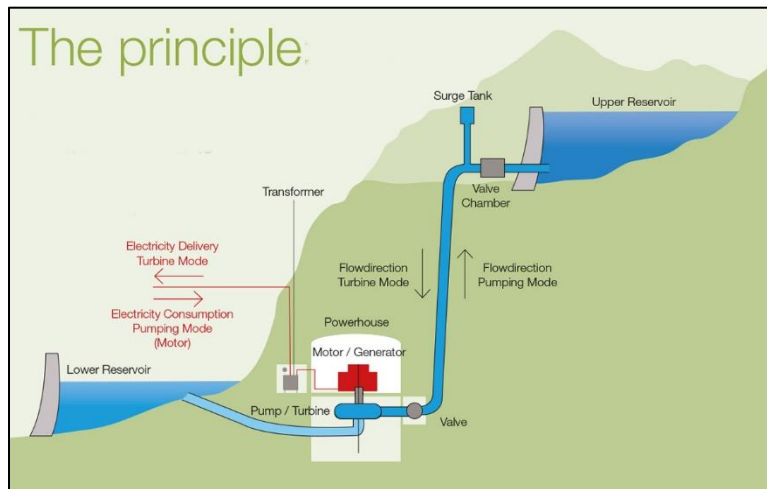
- ❖ The Union Ministry of Education has organized an international conference titled “Spectrum of Literacy” in New Delhi.
- ❖ India's first silicon carbide manufacturing facility is being set up at EMC Park in Info Valley, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- ❖ India, Maldives, Mauritius and Sri Lanka have signed the Charter and an MoU for the establishment of the Colombo Security Conclave (CSC) Secretariat in Colombo.
- ❖ The Economic Times World Leaders Forum (WLF) was held in New Delhi.
- ❖ Under the aegis of National One Health Mission, comprehensive national mock drill, "Vishanu Yuddh Abhyas" (Virus War Exercise), was conducted in Ajmer district of Rajasthan to assess pandemic preparedness.
- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi became the first Indian Prime Minister to travel to Brunei on a bilateral visit.
- ❖ Gujarat government approved a proposal of Kaynes to set up a semiconductor unit in Sanand with 6.3 million chips per day capacity.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu state legal services Authority has received UNICEF award for the exemplary work of the One Stop Crisis Teams (OSCT) to rescue, assist in prosecution and rehabilitation of survivors in case of Bonded Labour and Trafficking.
- ❖ The Uttar Pradesh government will construct a Vedic-3D Museum at the main building of the Sampurnanand Sanskrit University, Varanasi.
- ❖ IIT Delhi recently inaugurated its Abu Dhabi campus as the first-ever full IIT campus outside India.
- ❖ India's first-ever Thiruvalluvar centre in the world will be set up in Singapore to enhance cultural ties between the two countries.
 - An Invest India office will also be established in the city-state to boost trade and investment.

TAMIL NADU

Pumped Storage Projects Policy 2024

- ❖ The State government has released the Tamil Nadu Pumped Storage Projects Policy (PSP) 2024.

- ❖ It aims to harness the potential of PSPs to support sustainable energy growth, meet renewable energy targets, attract investments, integrate renewable energy into the grid.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu has an installed wind energy capacity of over 9,000 MW and installed solar energy capacity exceeding 7,800 MW.
- ❖ State's total installed green energy capacity is 22,628 MW.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Green Energy Corporation Limited (TNGECL) shall be the Designated Nodal Agency for implementing this policy.



NATIONAL

e-Shram Portal Registrations

Benefits for Unorganised workers registering on e-SHRAM Portal

- e-SHRAM Card received after registration will be accepted across the country
- Accidental Insurance coverage through PMSBY for a year.
- Rs. 2 lakh in case of accidental death and permanent disability.
- Rs. 1 lakh in case of partial disability.
- Social Security benefits will be delivered through e-SHRAM Portal.
- Helpful for Central & State Government while providing assistance during calamities/pandemic.

e-Shram
Shramev Jayate
NATIONAL DATABASE OF UNORGANISED WORKERS

Registration Process on e-SHRAM Portal

- Registration has commenced on e-SHRAM Portal from 26th August, 2021. All Unorganised Workers can self-enroll through www.eshram.gov.in
- Assistance is also being provided through over 4 lakh CSC/SSK centers all across the country.
- Selected Post Offices are also providing assistance to Unorganised Workers in registration.

- ❖ The Ministry of Labour & Employment (MoLE) launched the eShram portal on 26th August 2021.
- ❖ In the span of three years since its launch, eShram has registered more than 30 crore unorganised workers.

- ❖ The eShram portal was launched as a "One-Stop-Solution" for the country's unorganised workers.
- ❖ It aims to facilitate access of various social security schemes being implemented by different Ministries/ Departments to unorganised workers.
- ❖ It serves as a facilitator to ensure the seamless access of various Government schemes to the unorganised workers.

Digital Agriculture Mission

- ❖ The Union Cabinet approved the Rs 2,817-crore Digital Agriculture Mission for the creation of Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) in the farm sector.
- ❖ It aims to create Digital Public Infrastructure in the agriculture sector is similar to the government's flagship e-governance initiatives in other sectors.
- ❖ The three major components of DPI are envisaged under the Digital Agriculture Mission:
 - AgriStack,
 - Krishi Decision Support System (DSS), and
 - Soil Profile Maps.



Initiatives for LGBTQI+ Community

- ❖ There are no restrictions for persons of the Queer community to open a joint bank account.
- ❖ They can also nominate a person in queer relationship as a nominee to receive the balance in the account, in the event of death of the account holder.
- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India had also issued a clarification on this matter to all the Scheduled Commercial Banks.

- ❖ Same-sex relationships nominate each other as beneficiaries and open joint bank accounts since September 2021 in some banks.



INTERNATIONAL

Legally binding international AI treaty

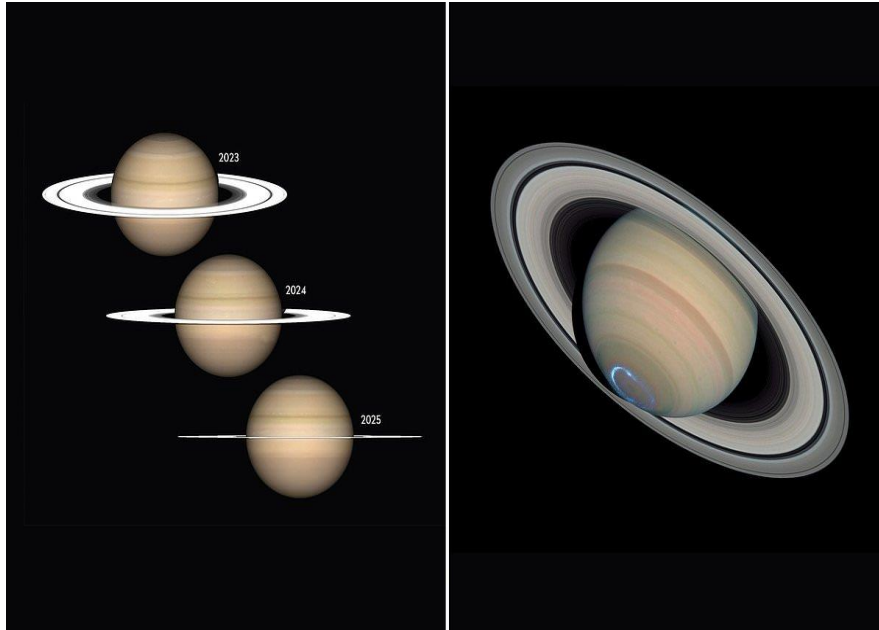


- ❖ The United States, European Union, and the United Kingdom have signed the first legally binding international treaty on artificial intelligence (AI).
- ❖ It is known as the Council of Europe Framework Convention on Artificial Intelligence, Human Rights, Democracy, and the Rule of Law.

- ❖ It aims to regulate AI technologies, underlining the need to balance innovation with the protection of human rights and democratic values.
- ❖ This AI convention is the result of years of negotiations between 57 countries.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Saturn's rings



- ❖ In March 2025, Saturn's rings will no longer be visible from Earth due to the planet's axis tilt, which will align the rings from the Earth's perspective.
- ❖ This rare occurrence is expected to significantly change how Saturn is viewed from our planet.
- ❖ Saturn has an axis tilted similarly to Earth's. During one half of its year (1 Saturn year equals 29.4 Earth years), the planet tilts in the Sun's direction.
- ❖ That's why the upper part of its ring shines.
- ❖ They temporarily disappear every 29.5 years as the planet completes its orbit around the Sun.
- ❖ After March 2025, they'll become visible again due to Saturn's axial tilt.
- ❖ But it will disappear again in November of the same year.
- ❖ Its rings will come back into full view by 2032.
- ❖ Saturn's ring system is not a single, solid entity but rather a collection of distinct sections.

- ❖ It includes the prominent A, B, and C rings, accompanied by the fainter D, E, F, and G rings.
- ❖ These sections are separated by gaps, such as the notable Cassini Division, which stretches approximately 4,800 Km wide.

FWD 200B

- ❖ Flying Wedge Defence and Aerospace launched the country's first indigenously built combat unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV), the FWD 200B.
- ❖ This marks a significant milestone, as India joins the ranks of nations equipped with advanced unmanned combat aircraft.
- ❖ The bomber FWD 200B is classified as a Medium Altitude Long Endurance (MALE) unmanned combat aerial vehicle (UCAV).
- ❖ It has a maximum take-off weight (MTOW) of 102 kg and can carry a payload of 30 kg.
- ❖ The UAV operates at a cruising altitude of 12,000 feet and can reach up to 15,000 feet.



Zombie fungus

- ❖ Researcher discovered a tarantula infected by a zombie fungus.
- ❖ This marking the first recorded instance of this fungus infecting a tarantula, as it typically targets ants.
- ❖ The *Ophiocordyceps unilateralis* is commonly referred to as "cordyceps."
- ❖ This parasitic fungus is known for infecting insects, particularly ants.

- ❖ The zombie fungus is notable for its ability to control the behaviour of its host.
- ❖ It is specifically forcing ants to seek out environments that optimize the survival and spread of the fungus.
- ❖ Despite its name, it does not infect humans.
- ❖ The fungus is predominantly found in tropical forest ecosystems.



ENVIRONMENT

Antarctic dragonfish



- ❖ Researchers in the Antarctic Peninsula have discovered a new species of Antarctic dragonfish.
- ❖ The dragonfish is called the Banded Dragonfish or *Akarotaxis gouldae*.

- ❖ The fish was named in honor of a recently retired Antarctic research and supply vessel called the Laurence M. Gould and its crew.

MISCELLANEOUS

Study on Lothal port

- ❖ The IIT-Gandhinagar has found fresh evidence on Lothal which can confirm the dockyard's existence.
- ❖ The study has revealed that the Sabarmati River used to flow by Lothal (currently, it flows 20 km away from the location) during the Harappan Civilisation.
- ❖ There was also a travel route connecting Ahmedabad, through Lothal, the Nal Sarovar wetland, and the Little Rann, to Dholavira — another Harappan site.

