

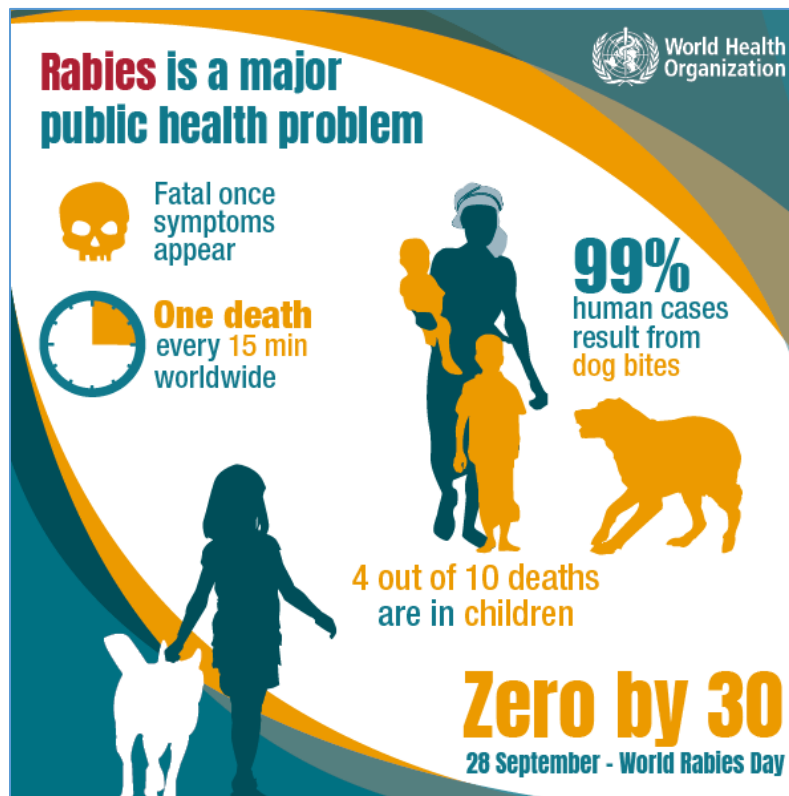
April - 02

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice suggested that the duration of any recruitment examination should not ordinarily exceed six months instead of the current notification to final result is nearly 15 months duration.
- ❖ Every year on March 31st, International Drug Checking Day is observed to educate people about drugs and their effects and promote harm reduction initiatives to reduce the risks associated with drug use.

NATIONAL

National Rabies Control Programme



- ❖ The Central Government has launched the National Rabies Control Programme (NRCP) for prevention and control of Rabies.
- ❖ The Strategies of the National Rabies Control Program are as follows:

- Provision of rabies vaccine & rabies immunoglobulin through national free drug initiatives
- Training on appropriate animal bite management, prevention and control of rabies, surveillance and intersectoral coordination
- Strengthening surveillance of animal bites and rabies deaths reporting
- Creating awareness about rabies prevention
- ❖ 'National Action Plan for Dog Mediated Rabies Elimination (NAPRE) from India by 2030' also was launched recently.
- ❖ The stray dog population control and management of the stray dogs is the mandate of the local bodies.

Project Himshakti

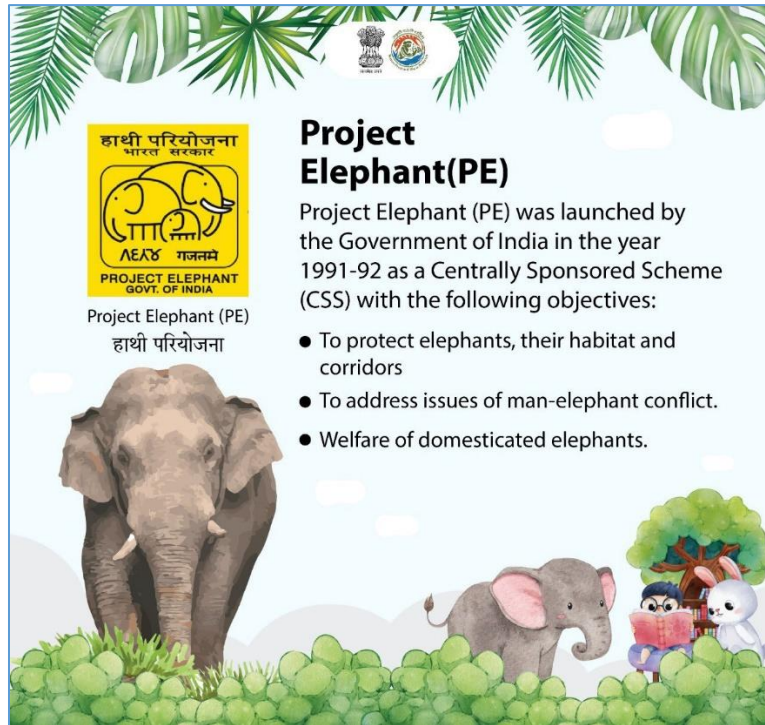
- ❖ Ministry of Defence, signed a contract with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) for procurement of two Integrated Electronic Warfare Systems 'Project Himshakti'.
- ❖ The project is under the Buy Indian Indigenously Designed Developed and Manufactured category comprising contemporary and niche technologies.
- ❖ 'Project Himshakti' will encourage participation of Indian Electronics and associated industries, including MSMEs.



Gaj Utsav 2023

- ❖ The Union Ministry of Environment and Forest has decided to celebrate Gaj Utsav 2023 at Kaziranga National Park in Assam.
- ❖ This aims to commemorate the successful completion of 30 years of Project Elephant and to give more impetus to conservation efforts.
- ❖ Project Elephant is a centrally sponsored scheme.

- ❖ It was launched in February 1992 for the protection of elephants, their habitats and corridors.



50th anniversary of Project Tiger



- ❖ A 3-day mega event to be held in Mysuru, Karnataka to celebrate 50 years of Project Tiger.

- ❖ The Government of India started Project Tiger on April 1, 1973, to promote tiger conservation at Corbett National Park.
- ❖ This is launched during then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's tenure.
- ❖ At the time of its launch in 1973, 'Project Tiger' included nine tiger reserves spread over 18,278 sq. km.
- ❖ Today, there are 53 tiger reserves covering more than 75,000 sq km with around 3000 Tigers.
- ❖ India harbours more than 70% of global wild tiger population, which is increasing at an annual rate of 6%.

eVTOL air taxi in India

- ❖ India is planning to offer eVTOL (electric vertical take-off and landing) air taxis transportation technology by 2025.
- ❖ Countries like Singapore, UAE, France, Germany, UK and US have already announced their plans to launch these air taxis by 2025.
- ❖ US aerospace company Jaunt Air Mobility decided to setup its air taxi assembly unit in India.



Sagar Parikrama Phase IV

- ❖ The fourth phase of the Sagar Parikrama program covered three coastal districts of Karnataka – Uttara Kannada, Udupi, and Dakshina Kannada.
- ❖ Sagar Parikrama is an initiative to organize a sea voyage across all coastal states and union territories to support fishermen, fish farmers, and other stakeholders.

- ❖ It aims to address their concerns and facilitate their economic development by implementing various fisheries schemes and programs.
- ❖ Phase I was started on March 2022 from Mandvi, Gujarat to Okha-Dwarka, and concluded at Porbandar by covering 3 locations.
- ❖ Phase II was held on September 2022 and covered seven locations.
- ❖ Phase-III was held on February 2022 and covered coastal districts of Gujarat and Maharashtra.



INTERNATIONAL

Operation Interflex

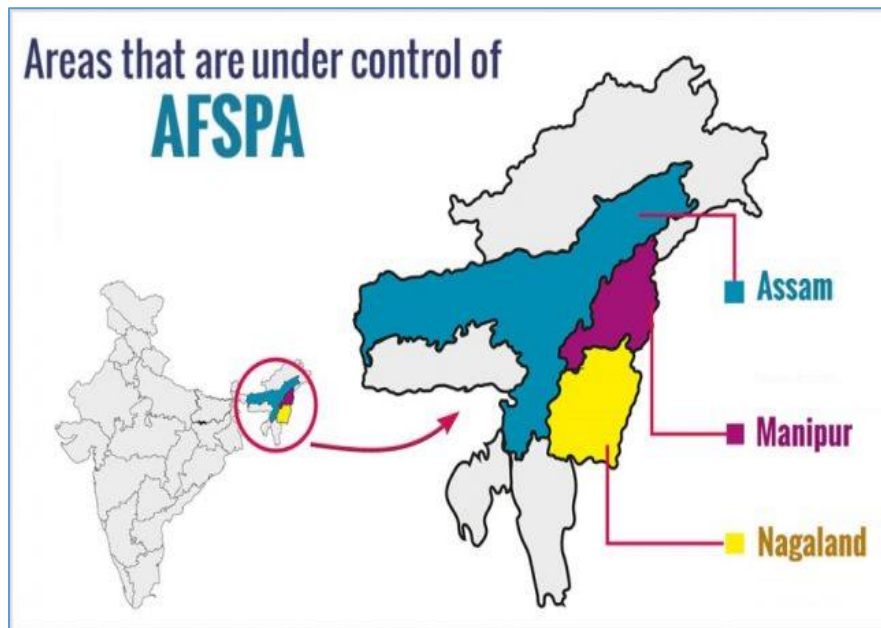


- ❖ Britain and its nine partners are training Ukrainian military recruits under Operation Interflex.
- ❖ It is the British-led multinational military operation to train and support the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

- ❖ It aims to teach weapon handling, range activity, marksmanship, fieldcraft basics, field tactics, battle casualty drills, counter explosives, the laws of armed conflict, first aid, and cyber security awareness.
- ❖ Earlier in 2015, under the Operation Orbital, British military was train and support the Armed Forces of Ukraine.
- ❖ Unlike its predecessor, Operation Interflex takes place within the United Kingdom.

STATES

'Disturbed areas' tag under AFSPA



- ❖ The Centre has decided to decrease the jurisdiction of "disturbed areas" declared under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 (AFSPA) in Nagaland, Assam and Manipur from April.
- ❖ For the last six months, AFSPA has been in force in eight districts and one sub-division of Assam and in most of Manipur.
- ❖ "Disturbed area" declaration in Manipur (except Imphal Municipality area) was in force since 2004.
- ❖ AFSPA was earlier in force in all nine districts of Nagaland since 1995, but it has now been reduced to eight.
- ❖ The "disturbed areas" notification was in force since 1990 in the whole of Assam till March 31,2022.

- ❖ From April 1, 2022, it restricted to nine districts and one sub-division of another district.
- ❖ From April 1 this year, it is reduced to only eight districts.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Ironman Krishna Prakash

- ❖ As part of the 'Drowning Prevention Awareness' campaign, IPS officer Krishna Prakash swam from Gateway of India to Elephanta Caves, Mumbai.
- ❖ He completed the expedition of 16.20 kms in just 5 hours 26 minutes and became the first person in history to do so.
- ❖ In 2017, he completed the Ironman Triathlon, one of the most challenging sports events in the world.
- ❖ This achievement earned Prakash the 'Iron Man' title and a mention in the World Book of Records.
- ❖ He was the first Indian Government Servant, Civil Servant, and Uniformed Services Officer to earn this title.



IMPORTANT DAYS

Universal Acceptance Day – March 28

- ❖ This year marks the first-ever Universal Acceptance Day being celebrated worldwide.

- ❖ Universal Acceptance (UA) is a technical requirement that ensures all valid domain names and email addresses, regardless of script, language, or character length.
- ❖ It can be equally used by all Internet-enabled applications, devices, and systems.
- ❖ The day provides an opportunity to rally local, regional, and global communities and organizations to spread UA awareness and encourage UA adoption with key stakeholders.



Rajasthan Day - March 30



- ❖ On March 30 of 1949, the princely states of Jodhpur, Jaipur, Jaisalmer and Bikaner merged to form the 'Greater Rajasthan Union'.

- ❖ On May 15, 1949, the Matsya Union merged with Greater Rajasthan to create a single, unified state of Rajasthan.
- ❖ The State Reorganisation Act of November 1, 1956 also brought some minor changes in Rajasthan.

MISCELLANEOUS

Al-Mohed-Al Hindi - 23

- ❖ The Indian Navy and Royal Saudi Naval Force will participate in joint naval exercise 'Al-Mohed-Al Hindi - 23'.
- ❖ This is the second such exercise between the two countries.
- ❖ The first joint naval exercise held in August 2021.



Konkan 2023



- ❖ The Indian Navy and the UK Royal Navy conducted their annual bilateral maritime exercise called Konkan 2023 in Arabian Sea.

- ❖ It aims to improve cooperation and learn best practices through various maritime drills.
- ❖ The exercises covered all domains of maritime operations, air, surface, and sub-surface.

Exercise Vayu Prahar

- ❖ The Indian Army and Air Force have conducted a 96-hour multi-domain air and land exercise, 'Vayu Prahar', in the eastern sector.
- ❖ The main objective of formulating plans can lead to synergy in multi-domain operations.
- ❖ This enables the coordination and rehearsal among various agencies for quick mobilisation, transportation and deployment of forces.
- ❖ The stand-off between India and China in the western sector of the LAC in eastern Ladakh is now in its third year.

