

April - 04

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated her nation's first submarine base 'BNS Sheikh Hasina' at Pekua in Cox's Bazar.
- ❖ The World Government Summit 2023 was held under the theme of "Shaping Future Governments" in Dubai, UAE.
- ❖ The first-ever SCO Conference on Shared Buddhist Heritage took place in New Delhi.
- ❖ The three-day Summit on the topic of 'Collaboration In Sports and Physical Fitness' with delegates from SCO nations held in New Delhi.
- ❖ Nikki Haley, former South Carolina's governor and Former U.S. ambassador to the UN, launched her bid to the USA 2024 presidential candidate on behalf of the Republican Party.
- ❖ The Department of Telecom organized the 'First International Quantum Communication Conclave' at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

TAMIL NADU

GI Tag for 11 products

Product	Location
Murukku	Manapparai
Thaikkal Rattan craft	Mayiladuthurai
Auhtoor Vetrilai (betel leaf)	Thoothukudi
Vetrilai	Sholavandan
Cumbum Panner Grapes	Theni
Negamam cotton sarees	Coimbatore
Varkey	Ooty
Myladi stone carvings	Kanniyakumari
Sago (Javvarisi)	Salem
honey	Marthandam
Pottery - Ghatam	Manamadurai

- ❖ In a first time, 11 products from Tamil Nadu were conferred with a geographical indicator (GI) tag together.

- ❖ With this, Tamil Nadu would surpass Karnataka to become the state with the highest number of GI tags by 56 products.
- ❖ Recently, Ramanathapuram's 'Mundu Chilli' and Vellore's Elavambadi spiny brinjal received the tag.

NATIONAL

3-Star Garbage Free cities

- ❖ 1000 Cities are targeted to become 3-Star Garbage Free by October 2024.
- ❖ The Garbage Free Cities (GFC) Star rating protocol was launched in January 2018.
- ❖ It aims to encourage competitive spirit among urban local bodies (ULBs).
- ❖ The highest rating is 7-star garbage free: Indore bagged that standard.
- ❖ The waste processing in India has gone up by over four times from 17% in 2014 to 75% today.

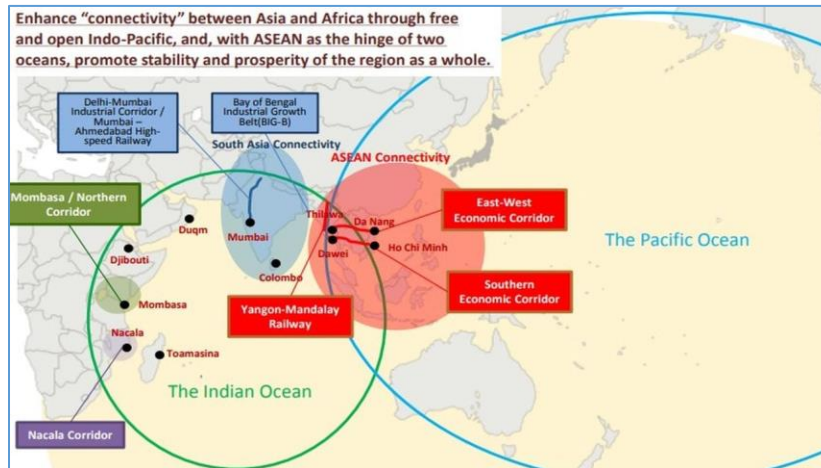


INTERNATIONAL

Japan's Free and Open Indo-Pacific policy

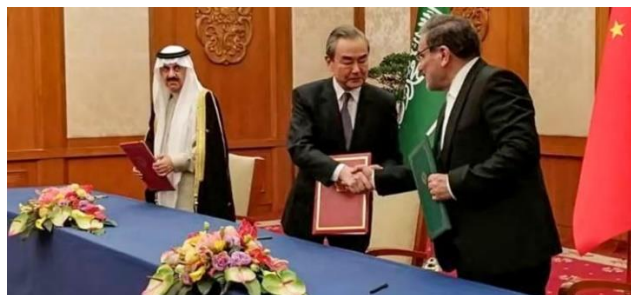
- ❖ Japan's PM Kishida unveiled the Japanese plan for a Free and Open Indo-Pacific policy.
- ❖ The first pillar is about the principles for peace and rules for prosperity.

- ❖ The second one emphasises on addressing challenges in an Indo-Pacific way.
- ❖ The third one focuses on multi-layered connectivity.
- ❖ The last one is about extending efforts for security and safe use of the “sea” to the “air”.
- ❖ Japan will develop the Matarbari Port in Bangladesh as part of ‘this policy’.



Saudi-Iran truce

- ❖ China has succeeded in brokering truce between Iran and Saudi Arabia.
- ❖ Both the countries signed an agreement in Beijing and accepted to re-establish diplomatic ties.
- ❖ Over the past decade, Iran and Saudi Arabia have engaged in multiple proxy conflicts in the wake of the Arab Spring.



ENVIRONMENT

Graveyard for imported CO2

- ❖ Denmark inaugurated a project to store carbon dioxide 1,800 metres beneath the North Sea.

- ❖ This is the first country in the world to bury CO₂ imported from abroad.
- ❖ The "Greensand" project is expected to store up to eight million tonnes of CO₂ per year by 2030.



Biofuels Alliance

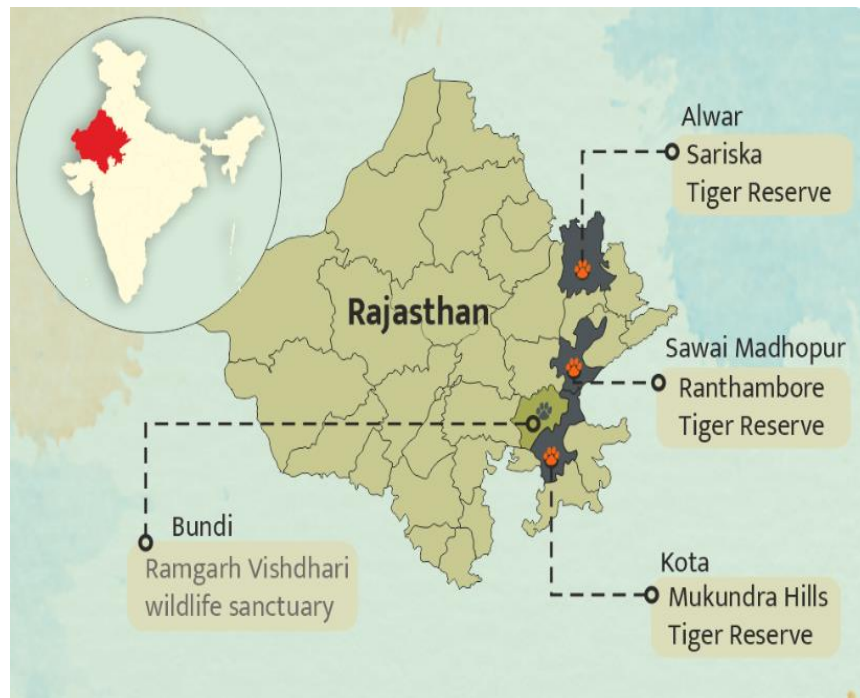


- ❖ The Global Biofuel Alliance was announced under India's G20 Presidency.
- ❖ The US and Brazil are joined this India-led initiative.
- ❖ The aim of this Alliance is to encourage cooperation and promote the use of sustainable biofuels, including in the transportation industry.
- ❖ The US and Brazil are the top 2 players in Biofuels.

- ❖ They lead in biodiesel and ethanol production.
- ❖ Together they accounted for 84% of the world's ethanol production and 26% of the world's biodiesel production.
- ❖ India, Brazil and the United States, are the leading biofuel producers and consumers in the world.

Release of Tigresses into Tiger Reserves

- ❖ One tigress each will be released to Kota's Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve and Bundi's Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan.
- ❖ Apart from the two tigresses, Gaurs and wild dogs and some other wild animals will also be released in the reserve area.
- ❖ The decision was taken to increase the tiger population in the region and to improve the ecological balance of the area.



REPORTS AND INDICES

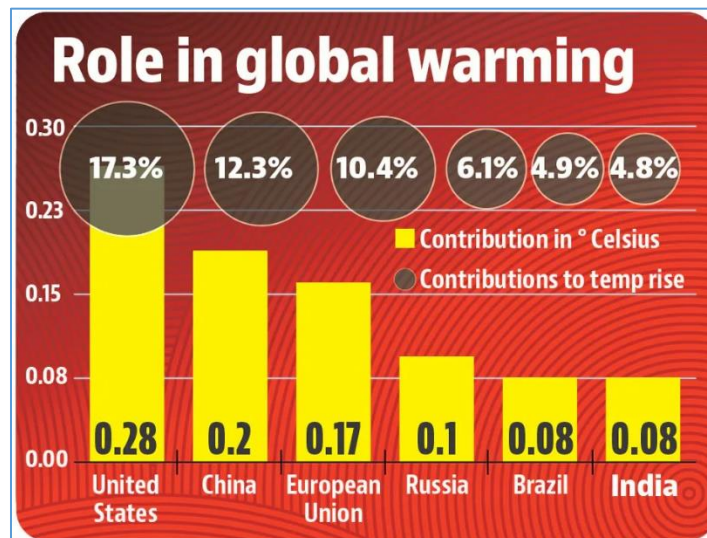
Hurun Global Rich List

- ❖ Hurun launched the 12th Anniversary Edition of 2023 M3M Hurun Global rich list.
- ❖ The list has been released in association with M3M India.

- ❖ Mukesh Ambani became the only Indian to feature in the list of top 10 billionaires across the world.
- ❖ Ambani ranked first, followed by Gautam Adani among Indian billionaires.
- ❖ Cyrus Poonawalla stood third with a net worth of \$28 billion.
- ❖ Shiv Nadar and their family is fourth with \$27 billion and Lakshmi Mittal is fifth with \$20 billion.



Top 10 contributors to warming

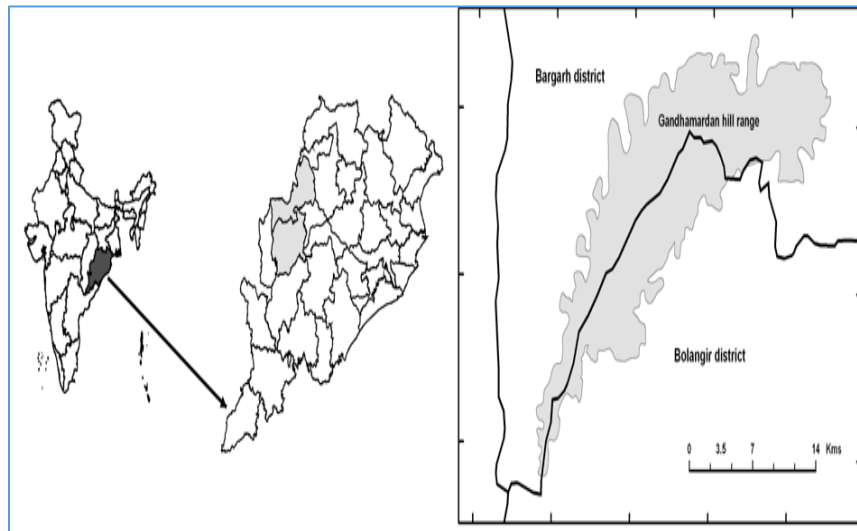


- ❖ India is ranked fifth among the top 10 contributors to global warming.

- ❖ US is the largest contributor through their emissions of key greenhouse gases since 1850.
- ❖ USA is followed by China, Russia, Brazil and India.
- ❖ Indonesia, Germany, the UK, Japan, Canada stands next 5 places.
- ❖ India is responsible for 0.08 degrees Celsius of warming from the 1850s through 2021.
- ❖ The global warming resulting from the emissions of all three Green House Gases (GHG): carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), and nitrous oxide (N₂O).
- ❖ Of the three gases, global emissions of CO₂ have contributed the most to warming.
- ❖ Up to 2021, warming through global CO₂ emission was 1.11°C, through CH₄ emission it was 0.41°C and through N₂O emission 0.08°C.
- ❖ The combined contributions to warming from Brazil, South Africa, India and China rose from 17% in 1992 to 23% in 2021.

STATES

Gandhamardan hills biodiversity heritage site

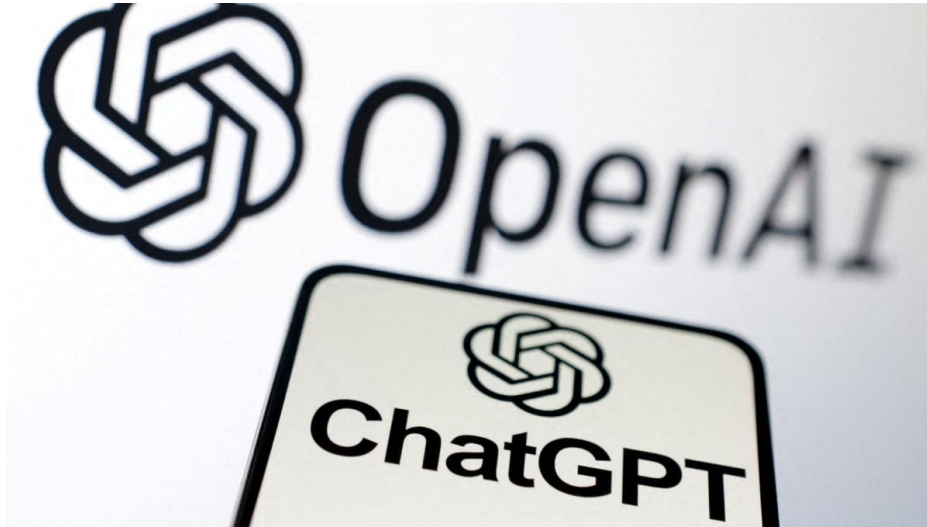


- ❖ The Odisha government has declared the Gandhamardan Hill Range in Bargarh and Balangir district as a Biodiversity Heritage Site (BHS).
- ❖ This is the third BHS of Odisha after Mandasuru Gorge in Kandhamal district and Mahendragiri Hill Range in Gajapati district.
- ❖ One angiosperm, *Ficus conccina* var *dasycarpa* and one spider, *Peucetia harishankarensis*, are endemic to this hill.

- ❖ Two historical monuments such as the Nrusinghanath Temple is located on the northern slope and Harishankar Temple is situated on the southern slope of the foot hills.

MISCELLANEOUS

ChatGPT decision on bail plea



- ❖ An Indian judge used ChatGPT to make a decision on the bail plea of a man accused of murder.
- ❖ This is the first such use of artificial intelligence by a court in India.
- ❖ A bench of Justice Anoop Chitkara at the Punjab and Haryana Court sought the AI tool's help while hearing the bail application of Jaswinder Singh.
- ❖ He is accused of rioting, criminal intimidation, criminal conspiracy and murder.
- ❖ It gave response that bail would depend on the “specific circumstances of the case” and the “laws and regulations” of the jurisdiction.
- ❖ Finally, they denied Mr Singh bail as he had a criminal history of two attempted murder cases.

Re-emerges of Zealandia

- ❖ After 375 years of speculation and exploration, scientists have finally confirmed the existence of a "missing" continent known as Zealandia.
- ❖ This continent is approximately 1.89 million square miles in size.
- ❖ It was once part of an ancient supercontinent called Gondwana.
- ❖ It included Western Antarctica and Eastern Australia over 500 million years ago.

- ❖ Zealandia began to "pull away" from Gondwana roughly 105 million years ago.
- ❖ The existence of Zealandia was first recorded in 1642.
- ❖ The vast majority of this "new" continent is located underwater, lying beneath 6,560 feet (2km) of water.
- ❖ Zealandia is now recognized as the world's eighth continent.

