

April - 04

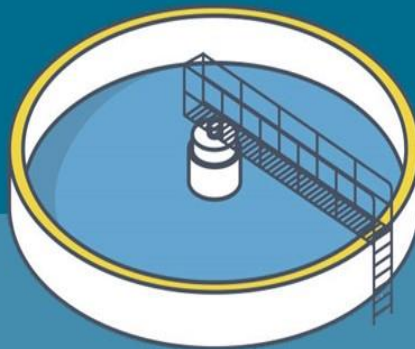
TNPSC BITS

- ❖ North India's 1st government homeopathic college will be established in the Jasrota area of Kathua district in Jammu and Kashmir.
- ❖ The Andaman & Nicobar Command conducted its first-ever all-woman maritime surveillance mission from INS Utkrosh.
 - The mission was led by Commander Shubhangi Swaroop, Lieutenant Commander Divya Sharma and Lieutenant Vaishali Mishra.
- ❖ INS Tir of the Indian Navy has participated in Exercise Cutlass Express 2024 in Seychelles.
- ❖ Tata Power Solar Systems Limited has completed India's largest Solar and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) project at Rajnandgaon in Chhattisgarh.
 - It comprises a 100 MW Solar PV Project and a 120 MWh Utility Scale Battery Energy Storage System (BESS).

NATIONAL

Water Purification System (Regulation of Use) Rules, 2023

MoEFCC rolls out Rules for managing, storing and utilizing reject water generated by Water Purification Systems; casts obligations on users/ manufacturers/ importers of RO-based water purification systems



- ❖ The Union MoEF & CC has introduced the Water Purification System (Regulation of Use) Rules, 2023.

- ❖ This provides guidelines for managing, storing, and utilisation of rejected water and discarded elements generated by these systems.
- ❖ These rules are set to become effective from December 2024.

‘Sagar Aankalan’ guidelines

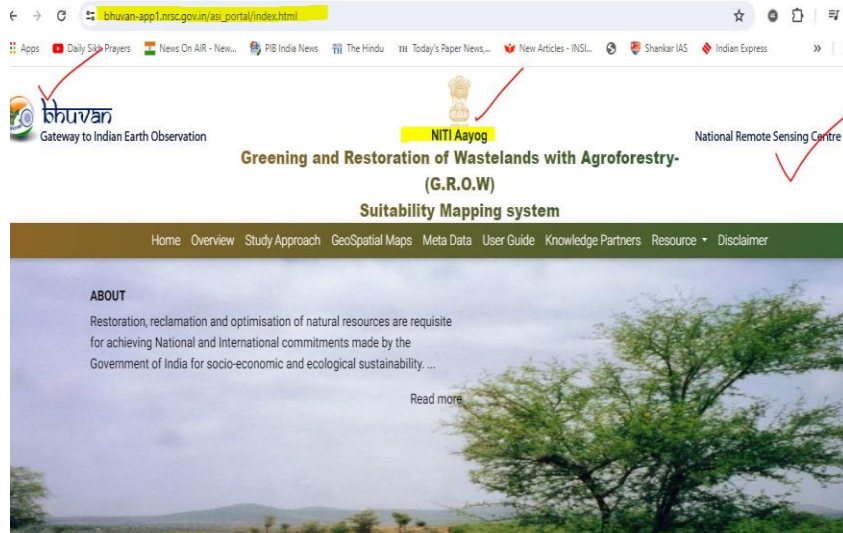
- ❖ The Union Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways launched 'Sagar Aankalan' guidelines.
- ❖ It aims to improve Indian ports' performance, focusing on mapping, bench marking, and aligning standards globally.
- ❖ The move underscores the government's dedication to modernize and optimize India's maritime infrastructure for economic growth and global competitiveness.



GROW portal and report

- ❖ The Greening and Restoration of Wasteland with Agroforestry (GROW) report and portal was launched by NITI Aayog recently.
- ❖ Using thematic datasets, an Agroforestry Suitability Index (ASI) was developed for national-level prioritization.
- ❖ The report provides state-wise and district-wise analysis, supporting government departments and industries for greening and restoration projects.
- ❖ The "Greening and Restoration of Wasteland with Agroforestry (GROW)-Suitability Mapping" portal allows universal access to state and district-level data.

- ❖ The GROW initiative aligns with national commitments like
 - Aiming to restore 26 million hectares of degraded land by 2030 and
 - Create an additional carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent.



SARTHI portal

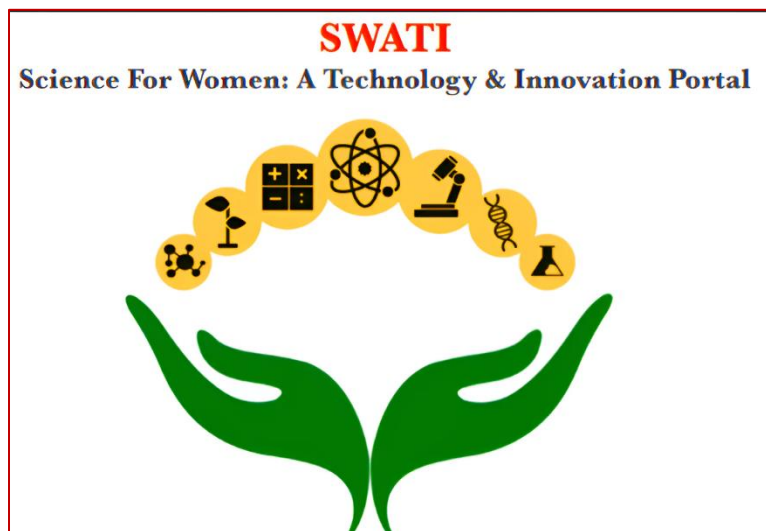


- ❖ The Centre launched a portal 'SARTHI' that aims to help insurance companies reach out to farmers and rural population.
- ❖ It provides tailored products as well as the government's subsidised insurance products including Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY).
- ❖ SARTHI stands for Sandbox for Agriculture, Rural Security, Technology and Insurance.

- ❖ The portal will be a single-window platform for viewing, purchasing, and availing insurance products.
- ❖ The Govt also launched a helpline number 14447 to enable farmers to lodge their concerns to strengthen grievance redressal mechanism under PMFBY.

SWATI Portal

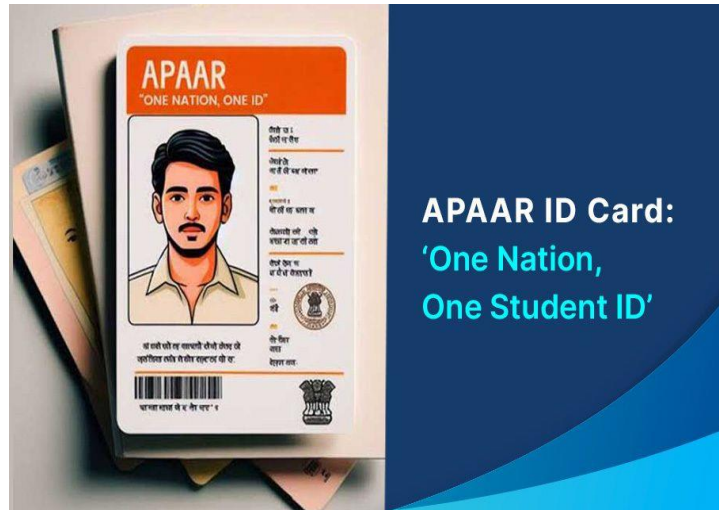
- ❖ The union government has launched the SWATI (Science for Women- A Technology & Innovation) portal.
- ❖ It contains a database highlighting accomplishments of Indian women in STEM& Medicine fields.
- ❖ The interactive portal was developed by the National Institute of Plant Genome Research (NIPGR) to address the gender gap in sciences.
- ❖ The portal seeks to encourage women to enter the field of science in academia and industry.




APAAR in remote villages across India

- ❖ The Education Ministry recently launched the Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry (APAAR) in rural regions through Common Service Centres (CSCs).
- ❖ APAAR has been conceptualised under the National Education Policy (NEP 2020).
- ❖ It mandates all college/university-going students to register on Academic Bank of Credits (ABC).
- ❖ Academic Bank of Credits is like a digital storage where students can avail its benefits.

- ❖ In this digital credit bank, all the marks/credits scored by the students will be stored.
- ❖ Personal information of students is also stored here.
- ❖ APAAR ID will remain with the children for their entire life.
- ❖ Students will not be required to give certificates anywhere and just giving APAAR ID will be sufficient.



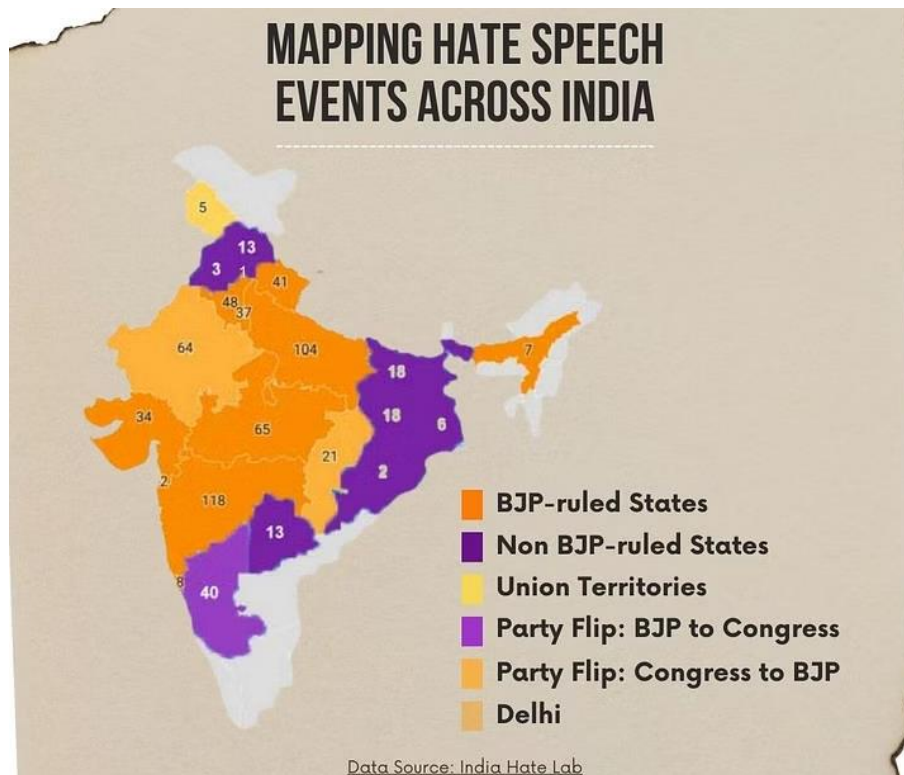
Law Commission's 287th report

<p>Cabinet Decision February 13, 2019</p>	<p>Introduction of Registration of Marriage of NRI Bill 2019</p> 
<p>The Union Cabinet has approved the introduction of Registration of Marriage of Non-Resident Indian (NRI) Bill, 2019, for creating more accountability and offering more protection against exploitation of Indian citizens, mostly women by their NRI spouses.</p> <p>Details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bill provides for amendment of the legal framework to act as a deterrent to the erring NRI spouses and creating more accountability and offer protection against exploitation of Indian Citizens married to NRIs. • Once the Bill is passed, marriages performed by NRIs would be registered in India or Indian Missions & Posts abroad, and necessary changes would be carried out in the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passports Act, 1967; and • Code of Criminal Procedure 1973 by insertion of Section 86A. <p>Major Impact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serving Judicial summons for Court proceedings in India is a major problem, which would be taken care of by this Bill by amending the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973. Thus, the Bill would offer great protection to Indian citizens married to NRIs and serve as a deterrent to NRIs against harassment of their spouses. 	

- ❖ The Law Commission of India, in its 287th report, has recommended compulsory registration of marriage between Non-Residential Indians/Overseas Citizens of India and Indian nationals.

- ❖ It proposes making these changes by revising the pending Registration of Marriage of Non-Resident Indians Bill, 2019 (NRI Bill).
- ❖ This report also recommends a new procedure for registering marriages with NRIs.
- ❖ It includes giving notice to the district Marriage Officer which will then be displayed for 30 days for anyone who would want to object to the wedding.
- ❖ Along with the expansion of the NRI Bill, 2019, the Law Commission recommends amending the Passport Act, 1967, to require a declaration of marital status in a person's passport.

'Hate Speech Events in India' Report



- ❖ In 2023, India recorded 668 documented hate speech events that targeted Muslims, according to a report released by India Hate Lab.
- ❖ The report, titled 'Hate Speech Events in India', noted that while 255 events took place in the first half of 2023.
- ❖ The number rose to 413 in the second half of the year, a 62% increase.
- ❖ About 75% of the events (498) took place in BJP-ruled States, Union Territories, and Delhi.
- ❖ While 36% (239) of the events "included a direct call of violence against Muslims".



- ❖ 63% (420) included references to “conspiracy theories, primarily involving love jihad, land jihad, halal jihad and population jihad”.
- ❖ About 25% (169) featured speeches calling for targeting Muslim places of worship.
- ❖ Maharashtra (118), Uttar Pradesh (104), Madhya Pradesh (65), Rajasthan (64), Haryana (48), Uttarakhand (41), Karnataka (40), Gujarat (31), Chhattisgarh (21), and Bihar (18) were the top 10 for the highest number of hate speech events.

Epidemic Plan and Standard Operating Procedure

THE EPIDEMIC DISEASES ACT, 1897

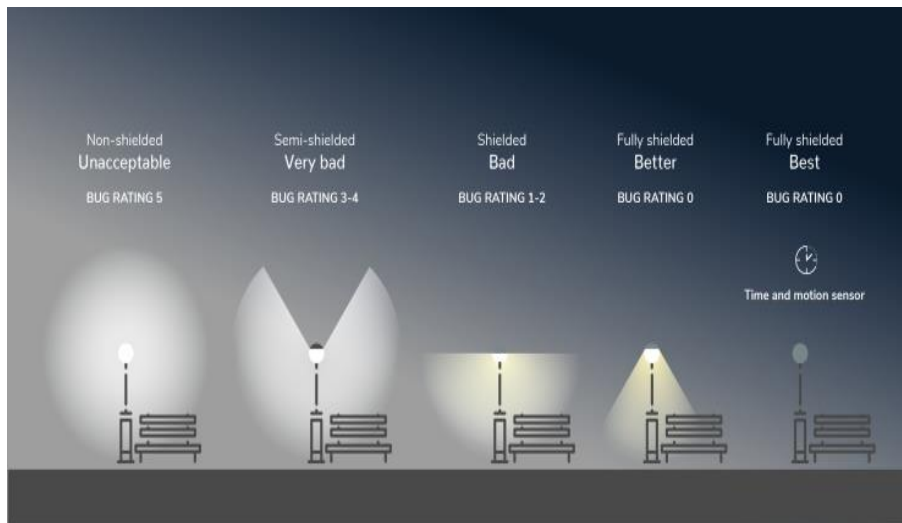
- ❖ The 286th Law Commission Report recommended creation of an Epidemic Plan and Standard Operation Procedure to address future epidemics.
- ❖ It was highlighting the limitations of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897 (EDA).
- ❖ It states “the management, control and prevention of epidemic diseases cannot be restricted to a century-old law.”
- ❖ There is no clear demarcation between the powers of the Centre, state, and local authorities during an epidemic, which leads to uncoordinated responses.
- ❖ The creation of a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) will “ensure proper and coordinated response to any epidemic with pre-defined powers and roles in case of a public health emergency”.

INTERNATIONAL

International Light Pollution Guidelines

- ❖ The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species and Wild Animals (CMS) has prepared the International Light Pollution Guidelines for migratory species.

- ❖ CMS COP14, noted that natural darkness has conservation value equal to clean water, air and soil.
- ❖ Between 1992 and 2017, the artificial light emissions have increased over 49 per cent.
- ❖ This can severely impact the wildlife, including causing behavioural and the psychological changes.
- ❖ Besides birds, other life forms such as mammals, reptiles and fish can also be affected by artificial light.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Pi - Personal intelligence

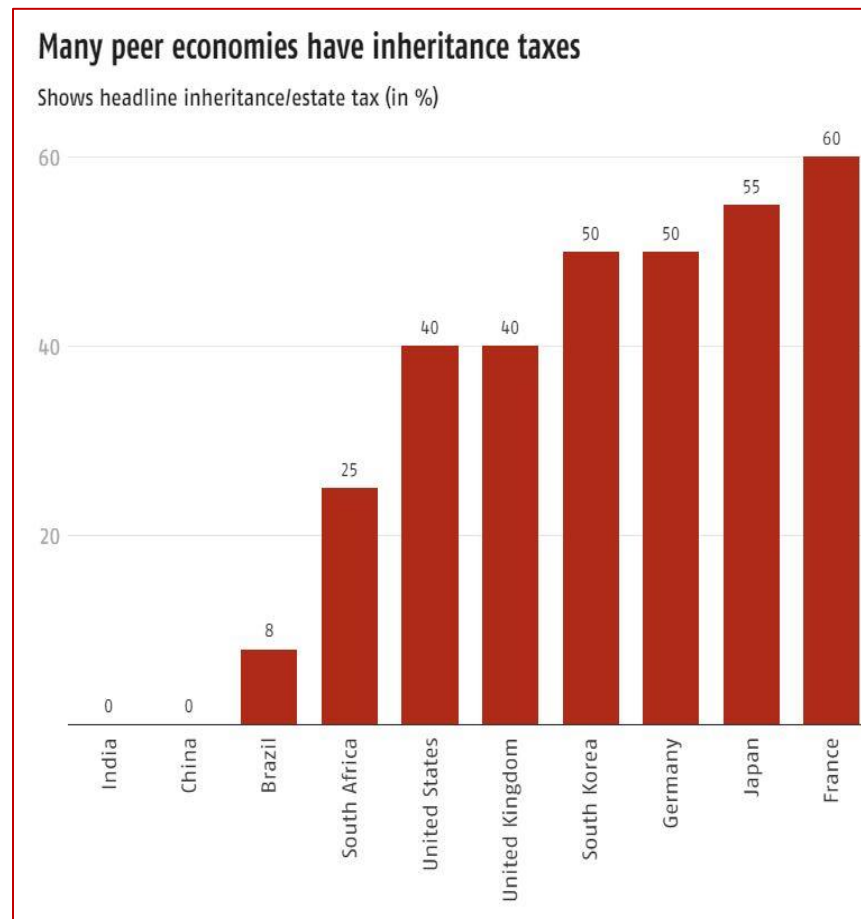


- ❖ Inflection AI launched its latest LLM, Inflection 2.5, an upgrade to its model that powers its friendly chatbot Pi personal assistant.

- ❖ Inflection AI is a California-based AI startup founded by former co-founders of DeepMind and LinkedIn.
- ❖ They introduced Pi, their personal AI, in May 2023.
- ❖ Pi is an AI chatbot with which one can have deep and meaningful conversations.

REPORTS AND INDICES

Inheritance Tax: Oxfam Report



- ❖ Oxfam report says that 70% of countries don't have any form of inheritance tax on wealth.
- ❖ Inheritance tax is a tax that was levied against a particular asset during the time of its inheritance.
- ❖ A person can receive inheritance either under a Will or under the personal law of the deceased.
- ❖ It comes under direct tax.
- ❖ In India, the concept of levying tax on inheritance does not exist now.



- ❖ The Inheritance or Estate Tax was abolished with effect from 1985.
- ❖ Also, the Income Tax Act, 1961, specifically excludes the transfer of assets under will or inheritance from the purview of gift tax.

