

April - 09

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Neeraj Nigam has been appointed as Executive Director by the Reserve Bank of India.
- ❖ Anjali Sharma successfully scaled the peak of Mount Kilimanjaro in South Africa while wearing an Indian traditional Gaddi dress (Luanchadi).
- ❖ IIT Kanpur, hosted the Youth20 Consultation under the G20 Presidency of India.
- ❖ Philanthropist and art collector Kiran Nadar was recently conferred "Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur" (Knight of the Legion of Honour) by France.

NATIONAL

ISRO YUVIKA 2023



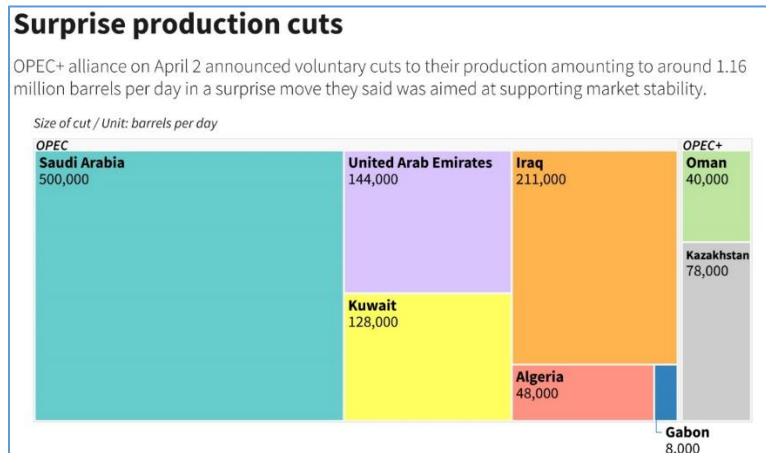
- ❖ It gives Indian Space Research Agency has designed an educational initiative for children.
- ❖ YUVIKA stands for “YUva VIgyani KAryakram”.
- ❖ It is also known as the "Young Scientist Program.

- ❖ It is specifically designed for school-age children who are interested in the newest developments in space science and technology.

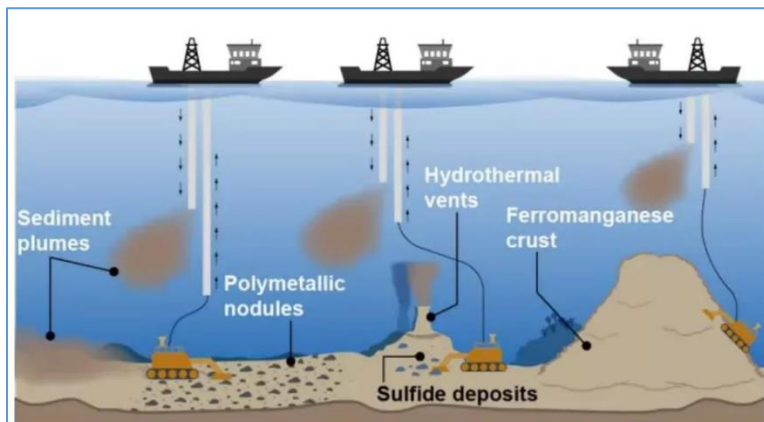
INTERNATIONAL

Oil production cuts

- ❖ Saudi Arabia and other OPEC+ members are going to reduce oil production amounting to around 1.16 million barrels per day.
- ❖ The move, according to the countries, is aimed at market stability.
- ❖ This group consist of 23 oil-producing countries.
- ❖ They had reduced its collective output by two million barrels per day in the previous year.



Deep sea mining operations



- ❖ The International Seabed Authority (ISA) is taking permit applications in July from companies that want to mine the ocean's floor.

- ❖ The undersea mining will be conducted to extract key battery materials — cobalt, copper, nickel, and manganese.
- ❖ They are in the form of potato-sized rocks called “polymetallic nodules”.
- ❖ They are found at depths of 4 kilometers to 6 kilometers (about 2.5 miles to 3.7 miles).
- ❖ The Jamaica-based ISA was established under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea.
- ❖ It holds authority over the ocean floors outside of its 167 member states’ Exclusive Economic Zones.

ECONOMY

India and Malaysia trade in rupee



THE RUPEE TRADE ROUTE

UAE, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Saudi Arabia, some African & Latin American nations have responded positively to trade with India in rupee

- Government of India is in talks with some smaller countries as it is trying to expand bilateral trade through bespoke rupee accounts.
- The step is to overcome the dollar-dominated trades
- India's trade with Djibouti, Namibia, Ethiopia, Kenya and Cuba can be settled in Indian rupees against franc, Namibian dollars, birr, shillings and pesos respectively

■ Countries that India is talking to include African countries such as Zimbabwe, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Malawi, Sudan, Nigeria and Tanzania

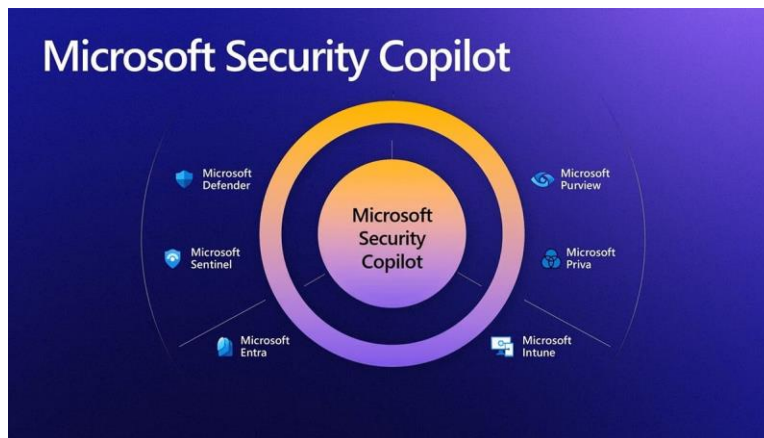
- ❖ India and Malaysia have agreed to settle trade in the Indian rupees.
- ❖ India is willing to take concrete steps towards de-dollarisation of its international trade.
- ❖ This initiative by RBI is aimed at facilitating the growth of global trade and to support the interests of the global trading community in Indian rupees.
- ❖ International Bank of Malaysia has operationalised this mechanism by opening a Special Rupee Vostro Account through Union Bank of India.
- ❖ India-Malaysia bilateral trade touched \$19.4 billion during 2021-22.

- ❖ Malaysia is the third largest trading partner of India in the ASEAN region, after Singapore and Indonesia.

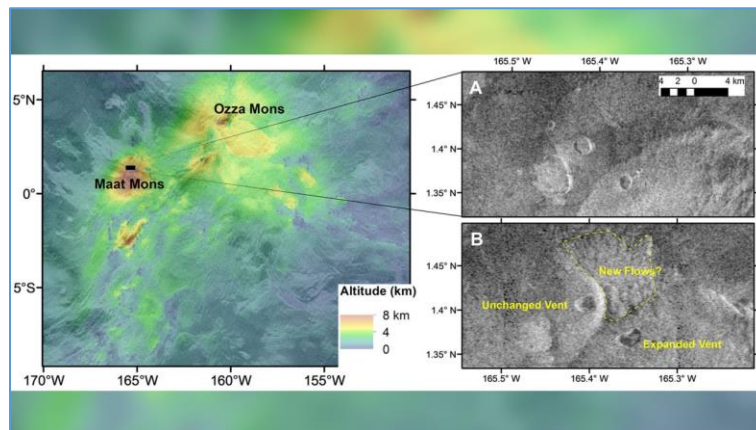
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Microsoft's Security Copilot

- ❖ Microsoft unveiled its latest cybersecurity innovation, Microsoft Security Copilot.
- ❖ This tool incorporates next-generation AI to help security professionals quickly identify and respond to potential threats.
- ❖ It also gaining a better understanding of the overall threat landscape.
- ❖ By combining Microsoft's vast threat intelligence and the power of Chat GPT-4 Security, Copilot serves as an easy-to-use AI assistant for security professionals.



Volcano in Venus



- ❖ A new analysis has found direct geological evidence of recent volcanic activity on the surface of Venus for the first time.

- ❖ Researchers have observed a volcanic vent changing its shape and getting bigger in size in around eight months.
- ❖ These Surface changes observed on a Venusian volcano during the Magellan mission.
- ❖ From 1990 to 1992, the Magellan spacecraft (17) imaged the surface of Venus using synthetic aperture radar (SAR).

1st indigenous quadruped robot

- ❖ Hyderabad-based Svaya Robotics has developed India's first indigenous quadruped (four-legged) robot and exoskeleton.
- ❖ Quadruped robots are four-legged robots which can walk or run in uneven and rough terrains.
- ❖ These robots can carry 25 kg in payload and walk along with the soldier.
- ❖ By wearing wearable exoskeleton, soldiers can carry heavy loads without expending much effort.



MATSYA-6000

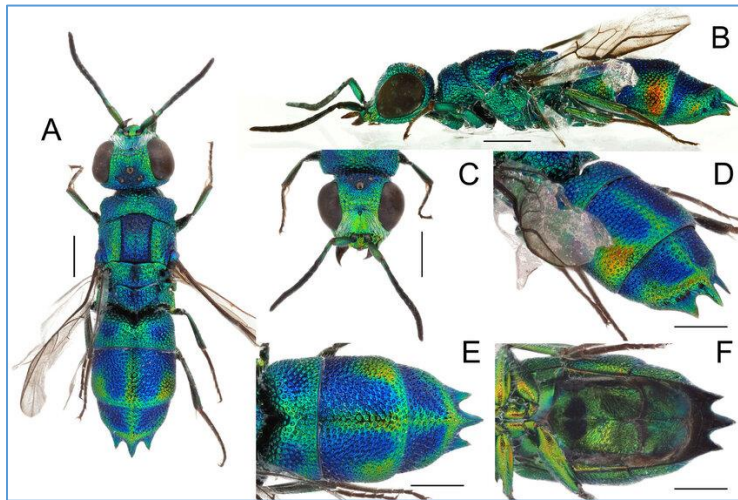
- ❖ The National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) is working on a mission named 'Samudrayaan' to send three people to 6000-metre depth.
- ❖ It will use a vehicle called 'Matsya 6000' for deep sea exploration.
- ❖ The indigenous mission will lead India to the group of five countries who have tasted success with such manned submersible vehicles at such depths.

- ❖ The 'Matsya 6000' will help scientific personnel explore deep ocean mineral resources rich in nickel, manganese, cobalt, and other rare earth elements.



ENVIRONMENT

Trichrysis poseidonia



- ❖ A research team has discovered a new species of cuckoo wasp from southern India.
- ❖ The new species of cuckoo wasp has been named Trichrysis poseidonia.
- ❖ Its specimens were collected from Tamil Nadu and Madayipara in Kannur.

- ❖ Another specimen was obtained from Nepal.
- ❖ The specific name is derived from Poseidon, the Greek God of the Sea.
- ❖ These wasps belong to the family Chrysididae.
- ❖ They are also known as cuckoo wasps, because they are kleptoparasitic (stealing food from others) on other wasps and bees as the cuckoo bird.
- ❖ The members of the family Chrysididae are more active in warm areas and they are heliophilic (more active in sunlight).
- ❖ The laterite plateau of Madayipara is well known for its rich biodiversity and is suitable for these wasps.

Exostoma Dhritiae

- ❖ A new catfish species has been discovered by scientists of the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) in Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ The new species has been named 'Exostoma Dhritiae' after Dhriti Banerjee, the first woman director of the ZSI.
- ❖ The new species was found in Siking stream, a tributary of the Siang River in Upper Siang district.
- ❖ It is a small fish found in streams in these hills and locally called 'ngorang' by local tribals.



STATES

Nagri Dubraj rice

- ❖ Chhattisgarh's special aromatic Nagri Dubraj rice received Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- ❖ This will provide a new identity to this rice at National and international level.
- ❖ Nagari Dubraj rice, popularly known as Basmati of Chhattisgarh, is the traditional, fragrant rice variety of the state.

- ❖ After “Jiraphool” rice of Surguja district in the year 2019, now Nagri Dubraj rice has been given the Geographical Indication tag/
- ❖ GI tag for Nagri Dubraj was awarded to 'Maa Durga Swayam Sahayata Group', a women’s self-help group.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Second EMPOWER meeting



- ❖ The second EMPOWER meeting is held at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
- ❖ Theme of the Meeting is “Women’s Empowerment: A Win-Win for Equity and Economy”.
- ❖ The Inception meeting of G20 EMPOWER was held at Agra, Uttar Pradesh.

- ❖ EMPOWER stands for Empowerment and Progression of Women's Economic Representation.

IMPORTANT DAYS

National Maritime Day - April 05

- ❖ This day commemorate the sailing of the first Indian commercial vessel, SS Loyalty.
- ❖ The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways started this day in 1964.
- ❖ This year will mark the 60th National Maritime Day.
- ❖ The theme for National Maritime Week 2023 is 'Amrit Kaal in Shipping'.

