

April - 11

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Italy has become the first country in the West to ban ChatGPT, the popular artificial intelligence chatbot from U.S. startup OpenAI.
- ❖ The American state of Georgia passed a resolution condemning Hindu phobia,
 - Thus, it is becoming the first state in the country to do so.

TAMIL NADU

PM's Chennai visit

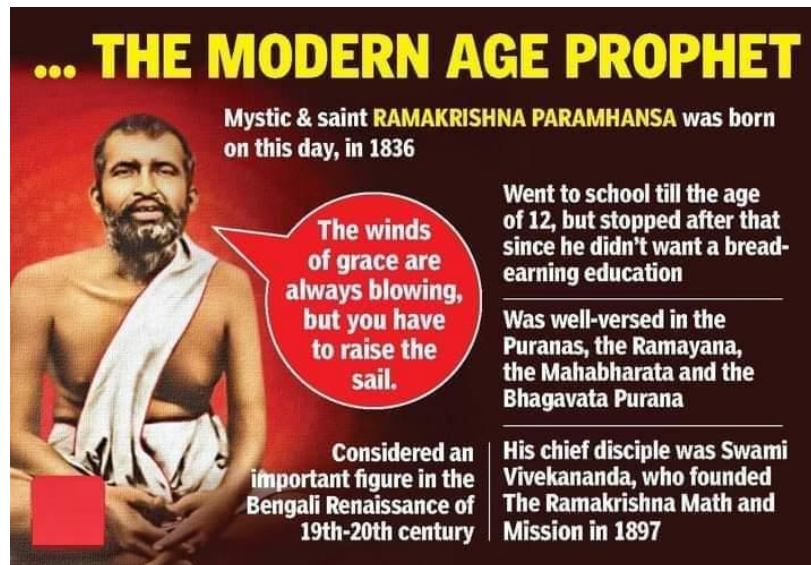


- ❖ Prime Minister inaugurated the state-of-the-art integrated terminal building at the Chennai airport in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ It has 100 check-in counters; 108 immigration counters and it can handle nearly 35 million passengers per year.
- ❖ He flagged off the Chennai–Coimbatore Vande Bharat Express from Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G. Ramachandran Central Station, Chennai.
- ❖ This is second Vande Bharat train for the State but the first one that will run within Tamil Nadu.

- ❖ The first Vande Bharat express train service is being operated from Chennai-Mysuru via Bengaluru.
- ❖ The Prime Minister also flagged off a new Tri-weekly Express service between Tambaram and Sengottai.
- ❖ This is also the first regular train service from Chennai to Tiruvarur-Karaikudi section.

125th Anniversary of Sri Ramakrishna Math

- ❖ The 125th Anniversary celebrations of Sri Ramakrishna Math held at Vivekananda House in Chennai.
- ❖ It was started in Chennai in 1897 by Swami Ramakrishnananda, one of the direct disciples of Ramakrishna.
- ❖ The 'Book on Holy Trio' also released on the occasion.

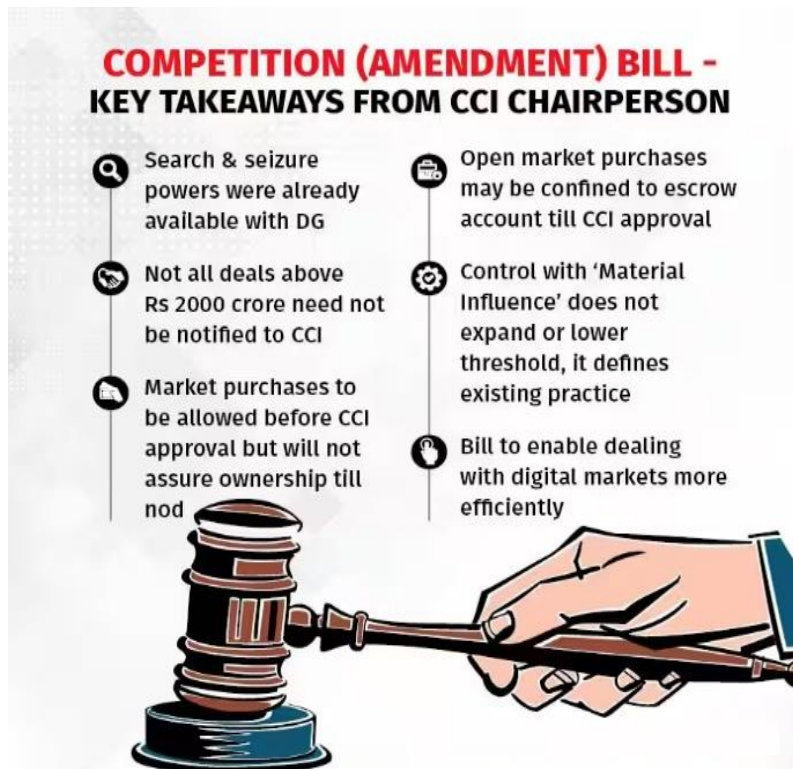


NATIONAL

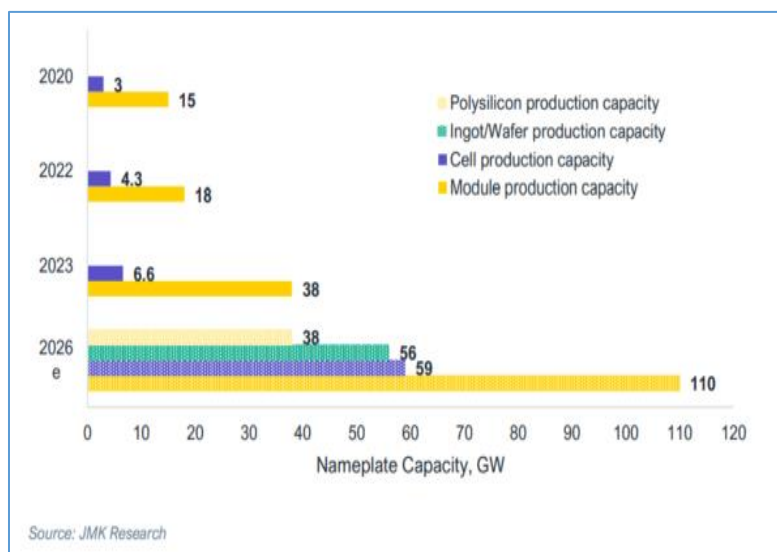
Competition Amendment Bill, 2023

- ❖ The upper house (Rajya Sabha) of the Indian parliament passed the Competition (Amendment) Bill, 2023 recently.
- ❖ This Bill seeks to amend the Competition Act, 2002.
- ❖ It gives the Competition Commission of India (CCI) its powers to prevent practices that harm competition and the interests of consumers.

- ❖ This amendment aims to bring the competition regime up to speed with the changes in how businesses operate currently, especially in the digital markets.



2nd largest solar manufacturer by 2026



- ❖ India will become self-sufficient and will be the second-largest PV manufacturing country after China in 2026.



- ❖ India's cumulative module manufacturing nameplate capacity has been more than doubled from 18GW in March 2022 to 38GW in March 2023.
- ❖ In terms of upcoming PV manufacturing installations, Gujarat is the leading state in India.
- ❖ It accounts for nearly 57% of all the upcoming PV manufacturing capacity.

INTERNATIONAL

No support for coal project

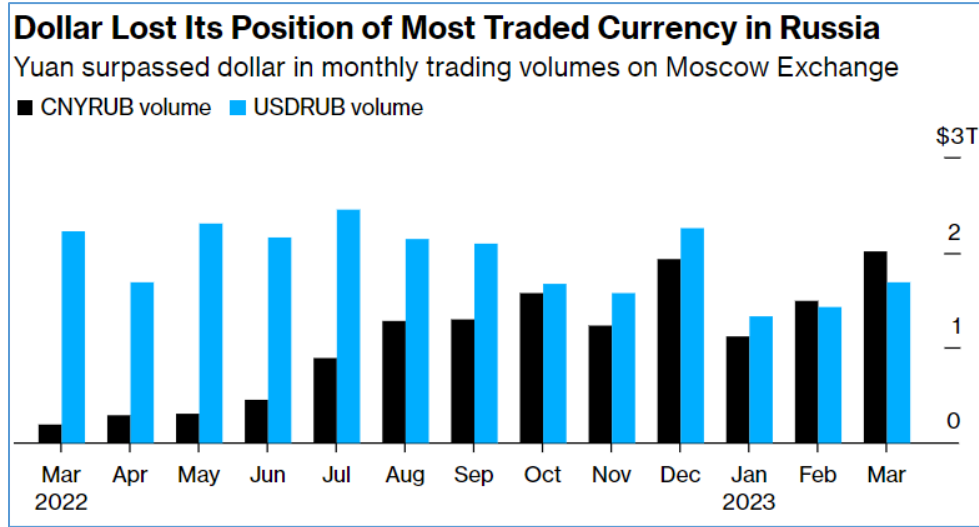


- ❖ The International Finance Corporation (IFC) has issued an update to its Green Equity Approach (GEA) policy.
- ❖ It will no longer allow financial intermediary clients to support new coal projects.
- ❖ IFC is the World Bank's private sector arm.
- ❖ Previously, the GEA only required clients to reduce their exposure by half by 2025, and to zero by 2030, but did not prevent new investments.

Most Traded Currency in Russia

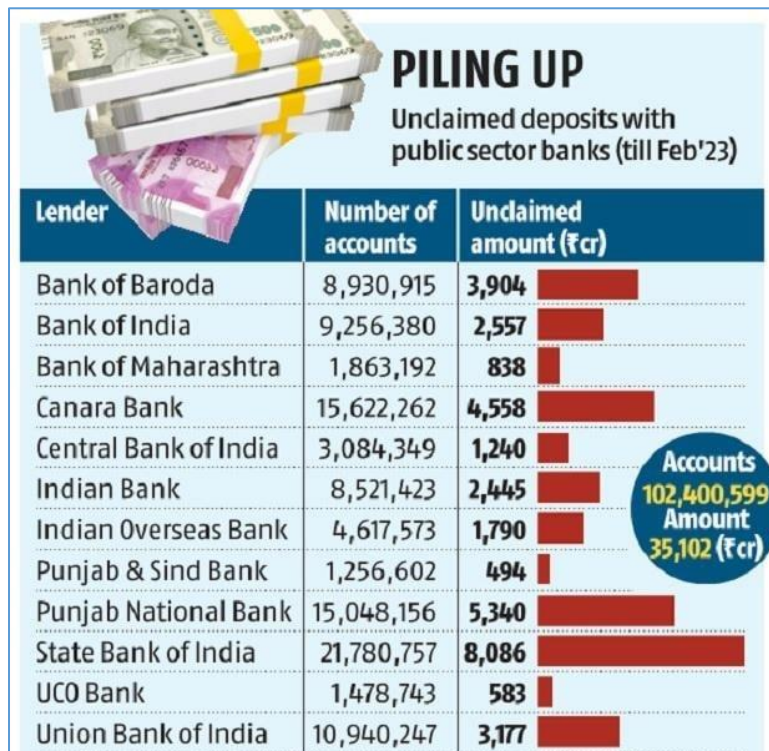
- ❖ China's yuan has replaced the US dollar as the most traded currency in Russia.
- ❖ Before the Ukraine invasion, the yuan's trading volume on the Russian market was negligible.
- ❖ Despite all that, the dollar remained the most popular currency on the Russian market until now.

- ❖ Global foreign-exchange reserves allocation in the yuan accounted for about 2.7% of the total amount by end of 2022.



ECONOMY

Unclaimed deposits to RBI

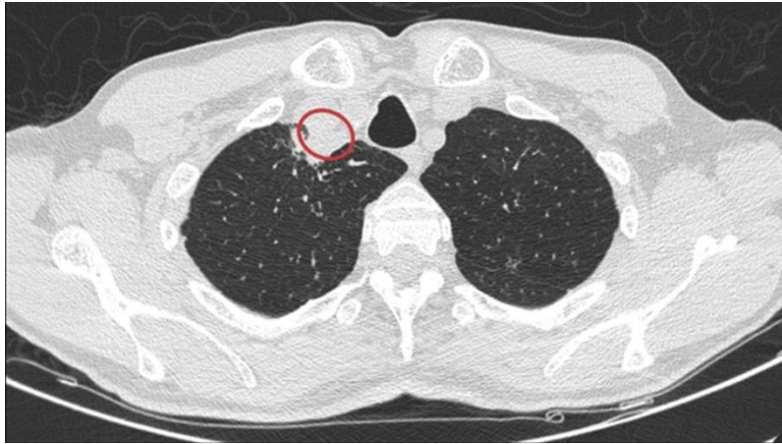


- ❖ The Public Sector Banks have transferred unclaimed deposits (till February 2023) of Rs 35,012 crore to the RBI.

- ❖ SBI tops the list with an unclaimed amount of Rs 8,086 crore.
- ❖ Punjab National Bank has transferred Rs 5,340 crore and Canara Bank has Rs 4,558 crore.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Plant fungus infecting humans

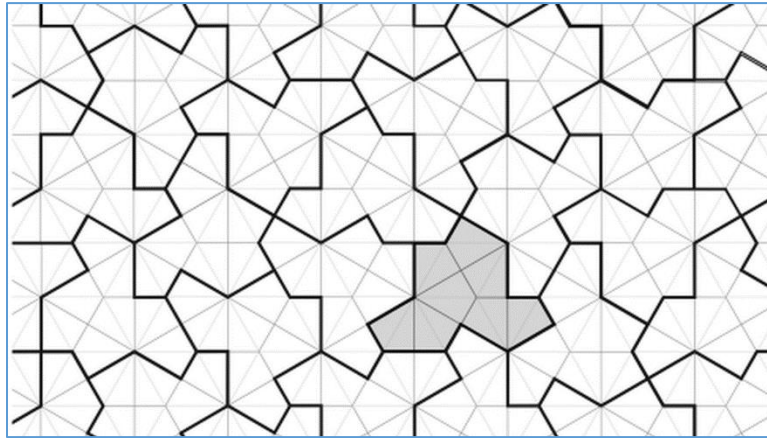


- ❖ A 61-year-old man from Kolkata was infected by a killer plant fungus.
- ❖ This is the world's first case of infection by this rare pathogen.
- ❖ Fungal diseases aren't exactly uncommon in humans.
- ❖ Among the millions of known species, only a few hundred are capable of causing us much harm.
- ❖ Ringworm, athlete's foot, and thrush commonly make themselves at home in damp areas of our skin, much to our irritation.
- ❖ Fungi that commonly feed on rotting vegetation, such as species of *Aspergillus*, can infect deeper parts of our body.

'The hat': 50-year-old geometry mystery

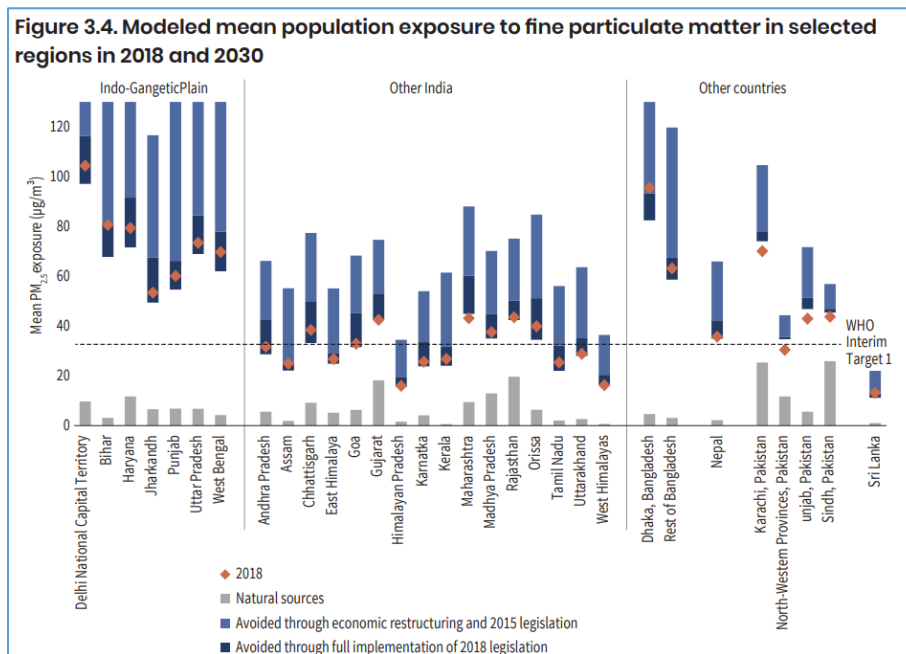
- ❖ A group of four scientists have discovered an entirely new shape which has 13 sides and has named it "the hat".
- ❖ It is the first 'einstein' tile to have been found.
- ❖ It is a shape which cover a plane without overlapping, leaving gaps, or repeating patterns.
- ❖ The shape is a polykite with the edges of eight kites to make it.
- ❖ This shape is the first time a single aperiodic tile has been found to cover a plane.

- ❖ There are a limited number of aperiodic tiles that have been found over the years since the first tile sets, consisting of 20,000 shapes, were created in 1960s.



REPORTS AND INDICES

World Bank's report



- ❖ The report titled as 'Striving for Clean Air: Air Pollution and Public Health in South Asia' was released by the World Bank.
- ❖ South Asia is home to nine of the world's 10 cities with the worst air pollution.
- ❖ Dhaka ranked seventh in the list of cities worldwide with worse air quality.
- ❖ Air pollution is responsible for about 20 per cent of the total premature deaths in Bangladesh.

- ❖ In South Asia, nearly 60% of the population lives in areas where concentrations of 5 exceed an annual mean of 35 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (WHO prescribes 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$).
- ❖ In the densely populated Indo-Gangetic Plain, it is over 20 times higher than the WHO-prescribed levels.
- ❖ This report identifies six major airsheds in South Asia where spatial interdependence in air quality is high.


STATES

India's first cool roof policy

- ❖ Hyderabad municipal administration and urban development department has launched India's first Cool Roof Policy 2023-2028.
- ❖ The policy aims to drive state-wide adoption of cool roofs by making it mandatory to install cool roofing materials, such as solar reflective paints, tiles or sheets.
- ❖ It planned to achieve a target of implementing clean roofing technology across 300 square kilometres of roof area — majorly (200 sq km).

What is cool roof programme

- It is a simple and effective way to fight heat
- It's aimed at saving energy, increasing thermal comfort and reduce cooling demand
- The primary function is to reflect more sunlight on the roof back to the atmosphere
- This can be done using paints, tiles or other materials to reflect sunlight and retrofitted in existing buildings



COOL ROOFING MATERIAL	HOW DOES IT HELP TS
Coated cool roofs These are coated with material or paint with high reflectivity on a conventional roof to increase the Solar Reflective Index	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The State can save approximately 600 mn units (Gwh) of electricity per year after 5 years with 300 sq km of cool roof areaRetrofitting 100 mn sft of roof has an effect on radiative forcing equivalent to a one-time offset of 10 tonnes of CO2
Membrane cool roofs Pre-fabricated materials like membranes or sheets are used to cover the roof	
Tiled cool roofs High albedo, ceramic mosaic tiles or shingles are laid on the convectional roof	<ul style="list-style-type: none">If TS covers 300 sq km with cool roofs in 5 years, it can lead to a one-time carbon offset of 30 million tCO2

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Medal design for Gangwon 2024

- ❖ The Gangwon 2024 Winter Youth Olympic Games will take place in South Korea.
- ❖ The design of medals for Gangwon 2024 emerged through an open competition.

- ❖ The Brazilian artist Akira Uwai's creation - 'A Sparkling Future' - was chosen by a panel of judges.



SPORTS

FIFA World Cup Host counties



- ❖ FIFA has withdrawn Peru's hosting rights to the FIFA U-17 World Cup 2023.
- ❖ The country was not ready to stage the tournament later this year.
- ❖ The tournament is scheduled from 10 November to 2 December 2023.
- ❖ Earlier, FIFA also removes Indonesia as the host of the FIFA U-20 World Cup 2023.
- ❖ This was due to the Indonesian official's objection to the participation of Israel.
- ❖ A total of 24 teams were scheduled to play from May 20 to June 11.
- ❖ Israel have qualified for the first time.



- ❖ FIFA picked both Peru and Indonesia in 2019 to host the respective 2021 editions of the tournaments.
- ❖ Both have been delayed because of the coronavirus pandemic.

