

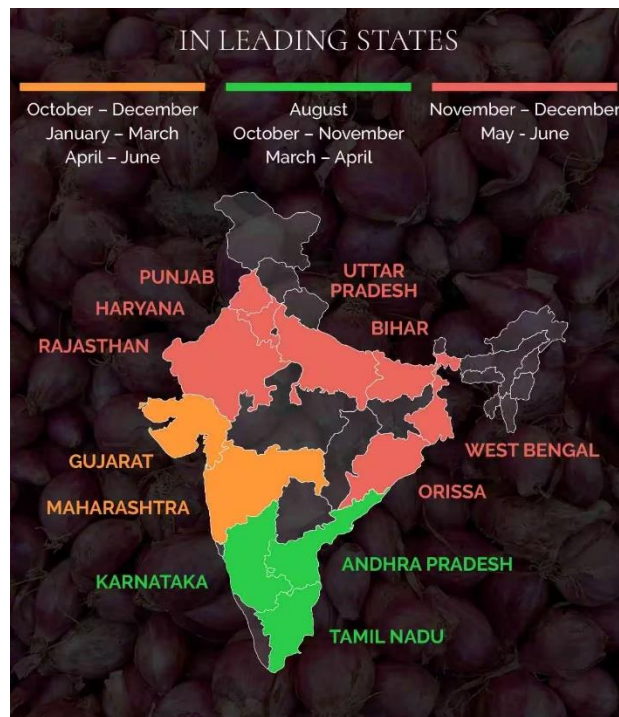
April - 11

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The 2024 Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific region was released by the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP).
- ❖ The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has started implementing a project in Junput village in West Bengal to build a small test centre for the country's weapon systems

NATIONAL

Onion Export to Friendly Countries



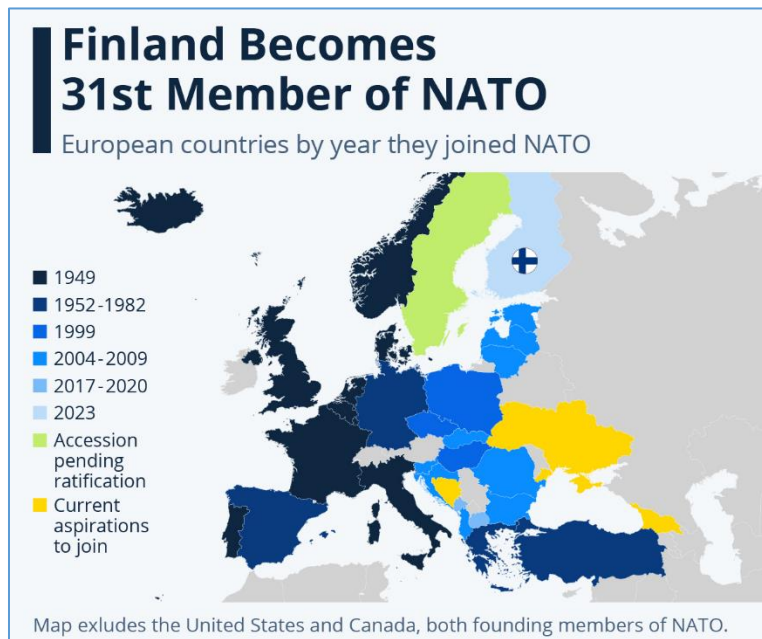
- ❖ India allowed an additional 10,000 tonnes of onion exports to the UAE through the National Cooperative Exports Ltd (NCEL).
- ❖ The government had previously allowed shipments of 14,400 tonnes to the emirates while extending the ban on onion exports until further notice.
- ❖ It was originally imposed from December 8, 2023, until March 31, 2024.
- ❖ Though onion exports are banned, the government allows specified quantities to friendly nations and on the basis of permission granted by the government to other countries based on their request.

- ❖ Onions worth \$431.78 million were exported during April-January FY24 with \$187.5 million shipped to Bangladesh and \$48.12 million to Sri Lanka.

INTERNATIONAL

75th anniversary of NATO

- ❖ NATO is celebrating 75 years of collective defence across Europe and North America.
- ❖ The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) was founded in 1949 to ensure collective security against the Soviet Union.
- ❖ NATO's primary and military headquarters are located in Brussels, Belgium.
- ❖ Recently, Sweden has been accepted as the 32nd member.



Dignity of Michelangelo's David

- ❖ Completed in 1504, artist Michelangelo's David is one of the most well-known symbols of Italian Renaissance art.
- ❖ The statue depicts the Biblical figure David, a young shepherd who fought and defeated the giant Goliath.
- ❖ Authorities used Cultural Heritage Code to combat unauthorized commercial use of images of famous artworks, such as Michelangelo's David.

- ❖ The museum has filed the lawsuits against companies producing merchandise featuring images of David that focus on the statue's nudity or depict it in a disrespectful manner.
- ❖ The goal is to protect the artistic integrity and dignity of the statue, ensuring that its image is not trivialized or used inappropriately.



ECONOMY

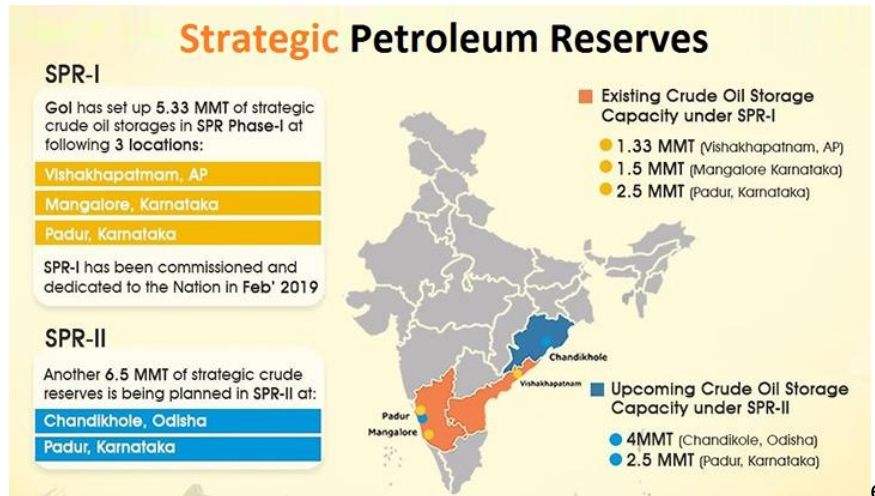
Digital India Trust Agency



- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is considering a new tool in the fight against cybercrime: the Digital India Trust Agency (DIGITA).
- ❖ This proposed agency would target the rise of illegal loan apps by verifying legitimate ones and creating a public registry.

- ❖ DIGITA would act as a central hub for vetting digital loan apps.
- ❖ This verification process would ensure apps comply with regulations and operate ethically.
- ❖ Only verified apps would receive a "DIGITA-approved" seal, making them easily identifiable for borrowers.

First Commercial Crude Oil Strategic Storage



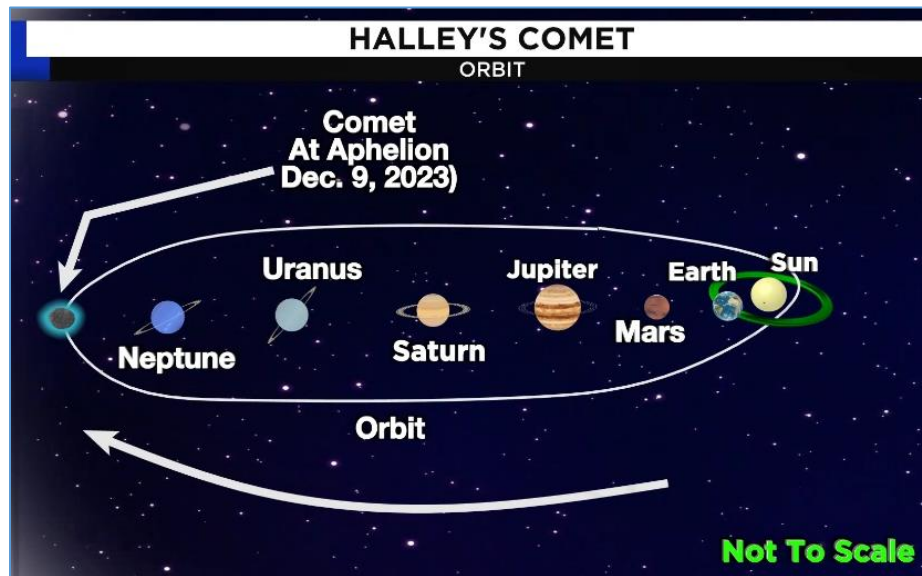
- ❖ India, the world's third biggest oil consumer and importer, plans to build its first commercial crude oil strategic storage.
- ❖ Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd (ISPRL), a special purpose vehicle created by the government for building and operating.
- ❖ It has invited bids for constructing 2.5 million tonnes of underground storage at Padur in Karnataka.
- ❖ The Padur-II will be constructed in a PPP (public-private partnership) model where private parties will design, build, finance, and operate the storage.
- ❖ ISPRL had in the first phase built a strategic petroleum reserve in underground unlined rock caverns for storage of 5.33 million tonnes of crude oil at three locations Visakhapatnam (1.33 million tonnes) in Andhra Pradesh and Mangalore (1.5 million tonnes) and Padur (2.5 million tonnes) in Karnataka.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

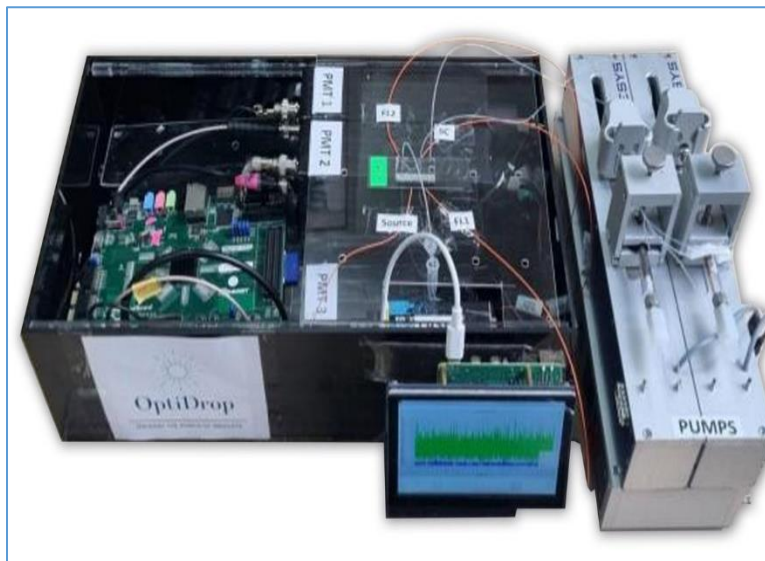
Halley's Comet: Reached The Farthest Point

- ❖ Halley's Comet, also called 1P Halley, will reach its farthest point from the sun and then again begin its long journey back towards the inner solar system.

- ❖ Halley's Comet is one of the most well-known comets in the world.
- ❖ It visits us every 75 to 79 years, and like other comets, appears in the night sky when it reaches close to the sun.
- ❖ The comet, which is now reaching its aphelion, is not going to be visible to earthlings for almost another 40 years.
- ❖ It will come closest to the sun again on July 28, 2061.



OptiDrop platform



- ❖ The Centre for Cellular and Molecular Platforms (C-CAMP) in Bengaluru has developed a new platform Named OptiDrop.

- ❖ It enables the study of single cells encapsulated in droplets with ease and precision.
- ❖ The platform has potential applications in diagnostics, therapeutics, agriculture, and animal health.

Mother Of Dragons Comet

- ❖ The "Mother of Dragons" comet, officially named Comet 12P/Pons-Brooks, is making a rare appearance in the Northern Hemisphere skies.
- ❖ This unique "Halley-type" comet, completing its orbit around the sun every 71 years, is now visible after dusk.
- ❖ It is marking its first appearance since 1954.
- ❖ This comet has association with the small "kappa-Draconids" meteor shower.
- ❖ The comet is the size of a city and is 17 km wide.



Atomic Clocks by India

- ❖ India made a significant jump towards self-dependency after the successful launch and deployment of its NVS-1 NavIC satellite.
- ❖ Rubidium Atomic Clock that has been placed on board the satellite.
- ❖ Only 5 countries so far have used it for their space missions.

- ❖ A Rubidium Atomic Clock works just like most other atomic clocks, namely the Caesium standard.



ENVIRONMENT

African Raptors: Population Declines



- ❖ Raptors in Africa have experienced a widespread decline of about 88 per cent in the past 40 years.
- ❖ 37 of the 42 species examined by them have seen a decline in their population.
- ❖ Out of the total, 29 (69 per cent) have seen a drop in population over three generation lengths.
- ❖ 27 species in multiple regions of Africa found that 24 of them (89 per cent) exceeded the decline threshold.

- ❖ As many as 13 of these species are enlisted in the Least Concern category, raising the issue of reassessing their status.

One Million Youth Actions Challenge

- ❖ The 1 million Youth Actions Challenge (1MYAC) aims to encourage youth aged 10 to 30 years old to take concrete actions for a more sustainable future.
- ❖ This was launched by by the UN Climate Change Learning Partnership (UN CC: Learn)
- ❖ The objective is to reach 1.000.000 youth actions.
- ❖ 1MYAC works to promote four Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):
 - SDG 6 on ‘clean water and sanitation ‘,
 - SDG 12 on ‘responsible consumption and production’,
 - SDG 13 on ‘climate action’ (climate change) and
 - SDG 15 on ‘life on land’ (biodiversity).



How to participate in the 1MYAC school campaign?

A campaign for teachers and educators at schools, universities and in the non-formal education sector.

Taking action now

- 1** Select group action(s) on **1MYAC.com**
- 2** Register your profile & your action(s) on **1MYAC.com**
- 3** Explain their relevance & take action with your students
- 4** Verify & complete action on **1MYAC.com**
- 5** Mission accomplished, challenge met! Start again?

For more information and further questions send an e-mail to: info@1myac.com

1 MILLION YOUTH ACTIONS CHALLENGE | **RES EAU**

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

2024 Young Global Leaders Community

- ❖ The World Economic Forum (WEF) has announced the 20th edition of its Young Global Leaders Community.
- ❖ This year, five Indians have been selected for the Young Global Leaders program.



- ❖ They are among nearly 90 changemakers under the age of 40 who are shaping the future and accelerating positive change through their groundbreaking work.



IMPORTANT DAYS

International Children's Book Day 2024 - April 02

- ❖ This day was dedicated to promoting the love for reading among children and to honour children's books and their importance in shaping young minds.
- ❖ The Japan Board on Books for Young People (JBBY) is proud to be the official sponsor of ICBD 2024.
- ❖ The very first International Children's Book Day happened on April 2, 1967.
- ❖ The theme for this year is "Cross the Seas on the Wing of your Imagination".



International Day of Mine Awareness 2024 - April 04

- ❖ On April 4, 1996, the Ottawa Treaty, also known as the Mine Ban Treaty, was opened for signature.

- ❖ This landmark treaty is aimed to ban the use, stockpiling, production, and the transfer of anti-personnel mines.
- ❖ This day aims to raise awareness about the indiscriminate nature of landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW).
- ❖ This year's theme is Protecting Lives, Building Peace.



National Maritime Day 2024 - April 05

- ❖ On 5th April 1919, SS Loyalty started its journey marking India's historic move toward maritime trade and commerce.
- ❖ In 1964, the government declared this day to honour the historic SS Loyalty.
- ❖ Today, India has become the 16th largest maritime country in the world, supported by about 200 non-major ports and 12 major ports.

