

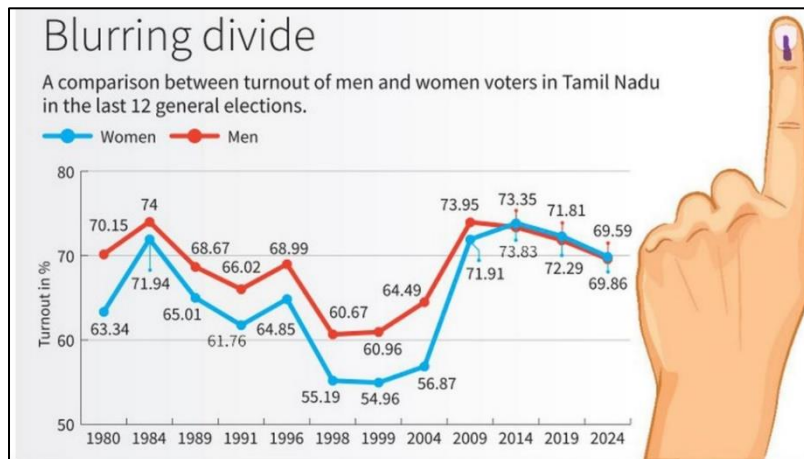
April - 27

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ President Droupadi Murmu has appointed professor Naima Khatoon as the first woman vice-chancellor of the Aligarh Muslim University (AMU).
- ❖ The World Crafts Council International (WCCI) has picked Srinagar for mapping its craft clusters before its final nomination as the World Craft City (WCC) from India this year.
- ❖ COP28 President Dr. Sultan Al Jaber was recognized with an award by the World Energy Council for his leadership in advancing the energy transition through the delivery of the historic UAE Consensus.
- ❖ The United Nations Summit of the Future will be held in September 2024.
- ❖ Moderna, a biotech company, has paused plans to build a vaccine-manufacturing site in Kenya after a steep drop in demand for its Covid vaccines.

TAMIL NADU

Disappearing gender gap in voting



- ❖ Women electors continuing to exercise their franchise at a marginally higher rate than that of men for the third consecutive time in general elections.
- ❖ It has indicated that the gender gap in respect of turnout, which was once prominent in the State, is disappearing.
- ❖ The turnout among men was relatively higher than that among women for several decades, right from the first election to the Lok Sabha in 1951-52.
- ❖ In 1980, the electorate of the State was 2.81 crore, of whom 1.40 crore were women.

- ❖ In the 2024 general election, the electorate stood at 6.23 crore, of whom 3.1 crore were women.
- ❖ Till 2009, there was a significant gender gap in terms of the percentage of women and men who exercised their franchise in general elections.
- ❖ However, for the first time, in the 2014 elections, women voters surpassed men voters by a narrow margin.

NATIONAL

Consumption of liquid nitrogen

- ❖ The Food Safety Department is creating awareness among the public about the consequences of consuming liquid nitrogen in any form.
- ❖ The advisory comes in the wake of a viral video on social media in which a boy is seen consuming liquid nitrogen.
- ❖ Both dry ice and liquid nitrogen can cause harm.
- ❖ The dry ice's temperature ranges around -78.5 degrees Celsius.
- ❖ But the liquid nitrogen can reach -196 degrees Celsius.
- ❖ Both substances produce thick white vapours at room temperature and are often used as a freezing agent in food preparation and preservation.



Ethylene Oxide Contamination

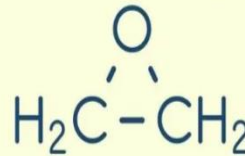
- ❖ Singapore and Hong Kong imposed a ban on certain spices exported by Indian brands MDH and Everest.



- ❖ They have alleged the presence of ethylene oxide (ETO) in certain spices exported by the two companies.
- ❖ The Indian government said that it will carry out the mandatory testing for ETO contamination in its spice exports to Singapore and Hong Kong.
- ❖ ETO is a pesticide classified as a carcinogen.
- ❖ Ethylene oxide is a chemical compound with the formula C_2H_4O .
- ❖ It is a flammable, colourless gas with a sweet odour at room temperature.
- ❖ It is an effective sterilising agent due to its ability to damage DNA.
- ❖ Types of cancer that are most frequently linked to exposure to ethylene oxide are lymphoma, leukaemia, and breast cancer.

Why is ethylene oxide a concern?

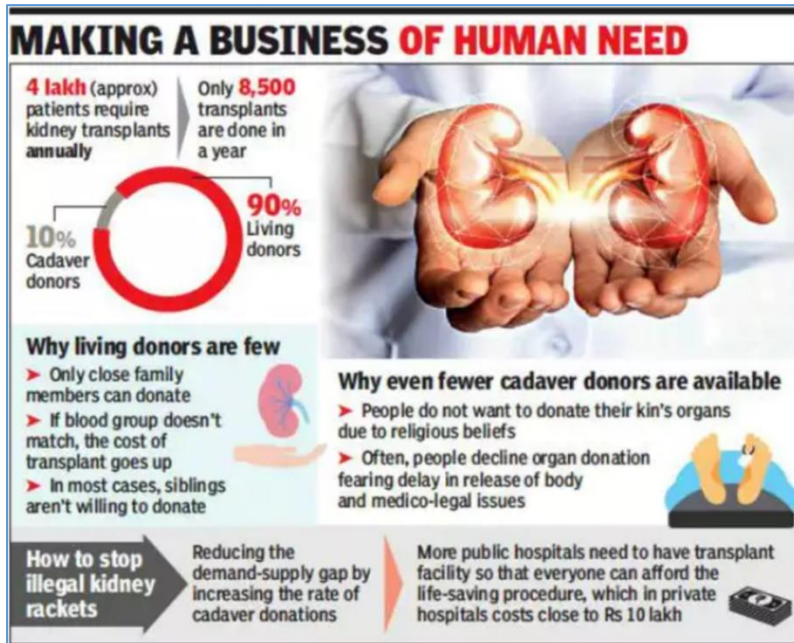
- Ethylene oxide (ETO), a carcinogen, poses long-term health risks for food safety.
- The 2-chloroethanol by-product of ethylene oxide is a suspected mutagen and carcinogen.



NOTTO-ID for Organ Transplants

- ❖ The Union Health Ministry has issued the directive to eliminate commercial dealing in organs, especially those involving foreign citizens.
- ❖ All cases of organ transplants, whether from a living or deceased donor, will be allocated a unique National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO)-ID for both the donor and the recipient.
- ❖ It must be generated by the hospital from the NOTTO website (www.notto.mohfw.gov.in).
- ❖ NOTTO-ID is mandatory for considering allocation of organs in case of deceased donor transplant.

- ❖ This ID in case of a living donor transplant, shall also be generated at the earliest, maximum within 48 hours after the transplant surgery is done.



INTERNATIONAL

Patient Safety Rights Charter



- ❖ WHO released the first-ever patient safety rights charter outlining the core rights of all patients in the context of safety of health care.
- ❖ The charter also sought to assist governments and other stakeholders to ensure the voices of patients are heard and their right to safe health care is protected.

- ❖ Patient safety is the avoidance of unintended or unexpected harm to people during the provision of health care.
- ❖ Around 1 in every 10 patients is harmed in health care and more than 3 million deaths occur annually due to unsafe care, according to OECD.
- ❖ In low-to-middle income countries, as many as 4 in 100 people die from unsafe care.

ECONOMY

Direct Tax Collections 2023-24



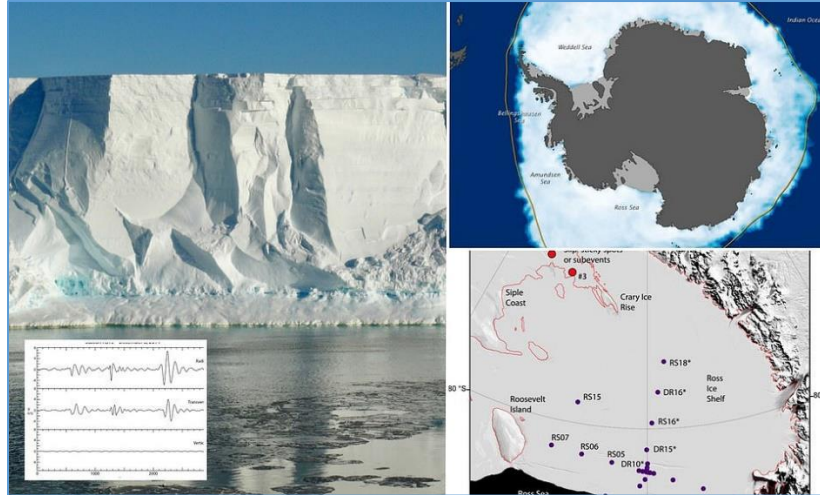
- ❖ The Central government has collected ₹19.58 trillion in direct tax revenue in FY24 after adjusting for refunds.
- ❖ This is showing a 17.7% growth annually, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT).
- ❖ After adjusting for refunds, personal income tax receipt stood at ₹10.44 trillion in FY24, showing an annual growth of 25.23%.
- ❖ Gross direct tax collection before adjusting for refunds stood at ₹23.37 trillion in FY24.
- ❖ The government had originally estimated net direct tax revenue of ₹18.23 trillion, but revised it up to ₹19.45 trillion in the FY25 interim budget.

ENVIRONMENT

Antarctica Ice Shelf jump

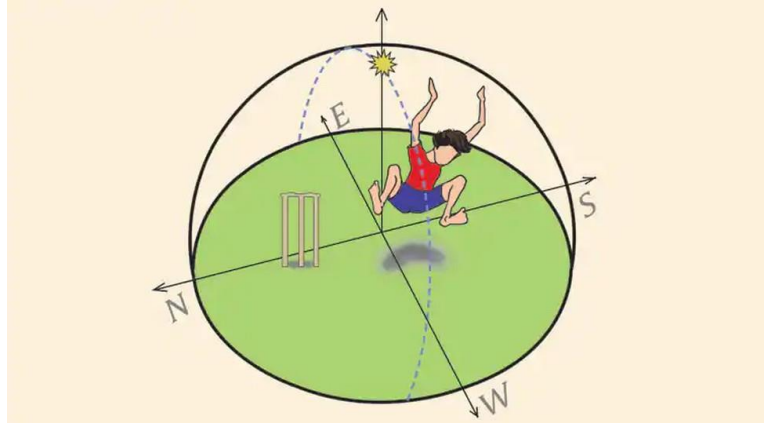
- ❖ Researchers discovered that the Ross Ice Shelf makes sudden jumps twice a day.
- ❖ They might cause "icequakes" - seismic disturbances that occur within the ice.

- ❖ Furthermore, jumps may cause fractures in the ice shelf, compromising its stability.
- ❖ Ross Ice Shelf is a massive slab of ice about the size of France.



IMPORTANT DAYS

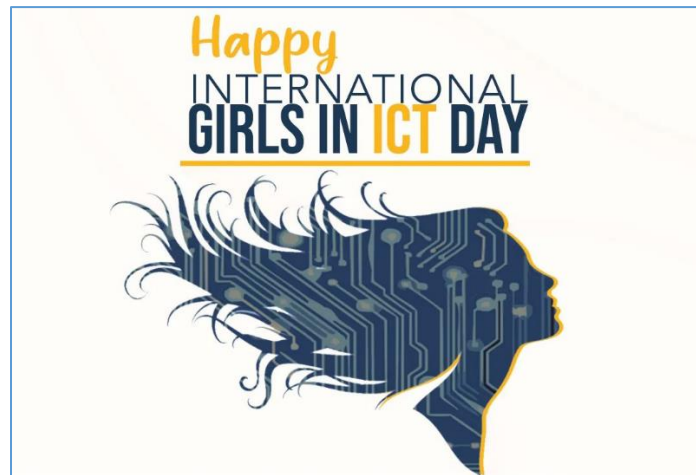
Zero Shadow Day 2024 – April 24



- ❖ When the sun is directly at the zenith position, it doesn't cast a shadow on any object and this was observed between 12:17-12:23 pm in Bengaluru.
- ❖ It's a rare celestial phenomenon that happens twice a year in locations situated between +23.5 and -23.5 degrees latitude.
- ❖ During this event, shadows of all objects and living beings disappear when the sun reaches its highest point in the sky.
- ❖ The Sun's declination will be equal to their latitude twice - once during Uttarayan and once during Dakshinayan.

- ❖ This phenomenon occurs when the Sun's declination matches the latitude of the location.
- ❖ Apart from Bengaluru, the people in places such as Kanyakumari, Bhopal, Hyderabad and Mumbai are also witnessed the phenomenon.

International Girls in ICT Day 2024 - April 25



- ❖ This day is celebrated every fourth Thursday in April.
- ❖ Its purpose is to show how important girls are in the world of technology, known as Information and Communications Technology (ICT).
- ❖ This celebration encourages more girls and young women to explore education in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM).
- ❖ The theme for 2024 is “Digital Skills for Life”.

World Veterinary Day 2024 - April 27



- ❖ This day is celebrated every last Saturday of April.



- ❖ It aims to celebrate the contributions of veterinarians to the health of animals, people, and the environment.
- ❖ The theme for 2024 is 'Veterinarians are essential health workers'.

