

April - 28

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The CSIR installed and activated India's biggest Climate Clock on the CSIR Headquarters Building, New Delhi to spread awareness about climate change and its ill effects.
- ❖ India's Reliance Jio, has become the world's largest mobile operator in data traffic consumption, overtaking China Mobile.
- ❖ Satellite Technology Day 2024 was observed to marking the significant milestone of the 50th anniversary of India's first satellite launch, Aryabhata, on 19<sup>th</sup> April 1975.
- ❖ Centre asked the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) to initiate “appropriate action” against the Nestle group for allegedly selling baby products with high sugar (2.7 grams) content in India.
- ❖ Usain Bolt, the legendary sprinter, has been named the official ambassador for the upcoming ICC Men's T20 World Cup.
- ❖ UK's Brighton and Hove City Council in England have decided to hold an annual multi-faith event to commemorate the role of Indian soldiers in the two World Wars at the town's India Gate memorial from this October.
- ❖ The Researchers at Google DeepMind and Stanford University announced Mobile ALOHA, a low-cost open-source hardware system for bimanual teleoperation.
  - It is a humanoid robot that can be remote operated by a user and perform autonomously by imitation learning.

## NATIONAL

### Crimson Barracuda



- ❖ Indian Naval warship INS Talwar intercepted a suspicious vessel and seized 940 kg narcotics from it.

- ❖ The operation was executed with precision by the ship's specialist boarding teams and MARCOs (Marine Commandos).
- ❖ The Indian Naval ship was on deployment as part of the operation Crimson Barracuda under the Bahrain-based Combined Task Force grouping.

## INTERNATIONAL

### First Border Marker

- ❖ Armenia and Azerbaijan came a step closer toward normalizing relations after a bitter conflict over territory.
- ❖ The two nations are working toward a peace treaty after Azerbaijan regained full control of the Karabakh province.
- ❖ It had been under the control of ethnic Armenian forces since the 1990s.
- ❖ After Azerbaijan regained full control of Karabakh, the vast majority of its nearly 120,000 population fled to Armenia.
- ❖ Armenian and Azerbaijani authorities announced that the first border marker was installed.

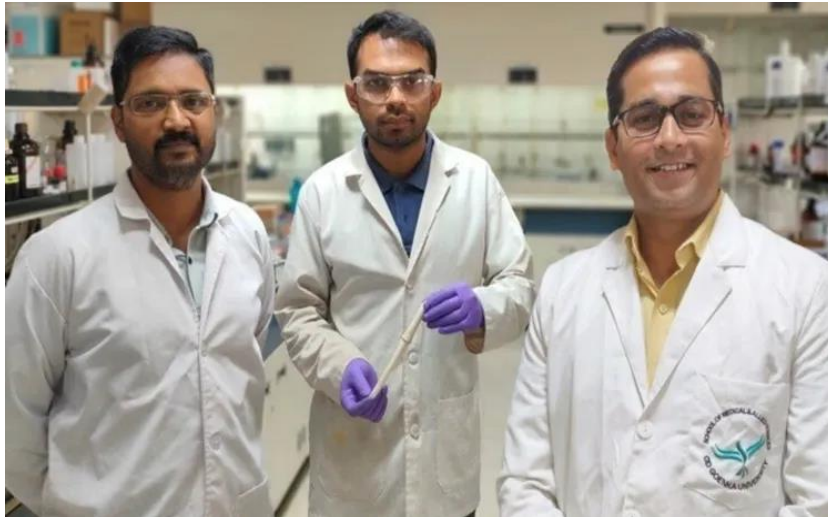


## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### UC-POP-Au - Photocatalyst

- ❖ The Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Bhopal has developed an effective photocatalyst.

- ❖ It is a substance that absorbs a wide range of solar energy and light - to quicken chemical processes in laboratories and industries.
- ❖ The novel photocatalyst is called 'UC-POP-Au'.
- ❖ This displays remarkable strength and catalytic efficiency as it absorbs the entire spectrum of light, making it a more potent catalyst during chemical processes.



## ENVIRONMENT

### Declaration of Rights for Cetaceans



**Whales have been officially granted "legal personhood" by Polynesian Indigenous leaders**

Legislation can now be written to protect the whales— or tohorā, as local Māori people call them.

**This does not mean whales are considered humans, but they can have protection as legal persons if they are killed.**

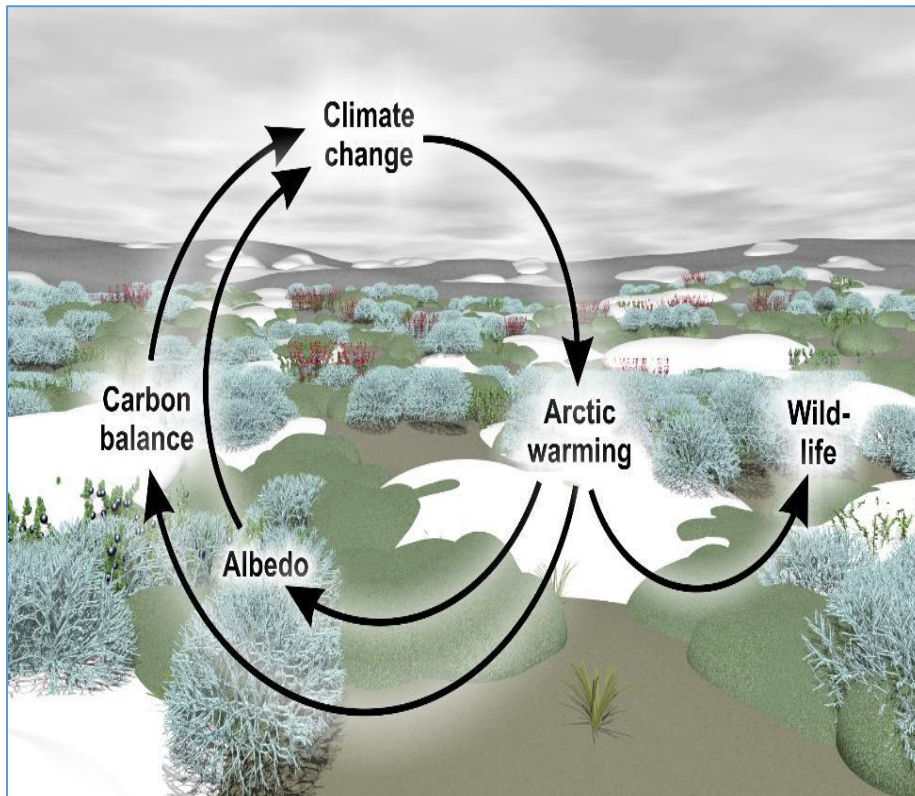
Every year, about 10,000 whales are killed because of large vessel collisions known as ship strikes.

If a vessel were to hit and kill a whale, they could be fined and required to update their vessel with anti-collision devices.

- ❖ In 2010, the Declaration for the Rights for Cetaceans was presented at a conference in Helsinki, Finland through the NGO Cetacean Rights.

- ❖ The declaration gives cetaceans, specifically dolphins and whales, the right to life and legal personhood.
- ❖ Now, Whales and dolphins have been officially recognised as “legal persons” in a new treaty.
- ❖ This treaty is formed by Pacific Indigenous leaders from the Cook Islands, French Polynesia, Aotearoa (New Zealand) and Tonga.

### **Tundra - Carbon Sink to Source**



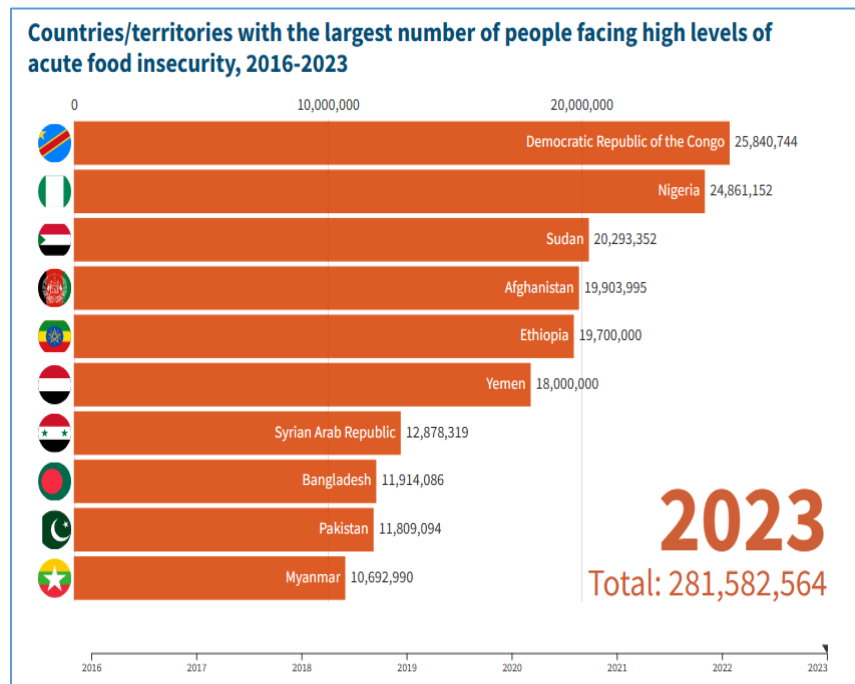
- ❖ Arctic and alpine tundra ecosystems are known to be large reservoirs of organic carbon.
- ❖ The warming planet may alter the characteristics of tundra environments and could transform them from carbon sinks to carbon sources.
- ❖ Rising temperatures change the biogeochemistry of an area, affecting local soil by altering nitrogen levels and Ph.
- ❖ A mean increase of 1.4 degrees Celsius in air temperature, 0.4°C in soil temperature and a 1.6 per cent drop in soil moisture led to a 30 per cent increase in respiration during the growing season.
- ❖ The warming rate in the tundra biome could reach 0.73°C per decade, significantly outpacing the global average rate of 0.19°C per decade.

- ❖ Furthermore, soil moisture decreased by 1.6 percent, influencing the tundra's ability to function as a carbon sink.

## REPORTS AND INDICES

### Global Report on Food Crisis

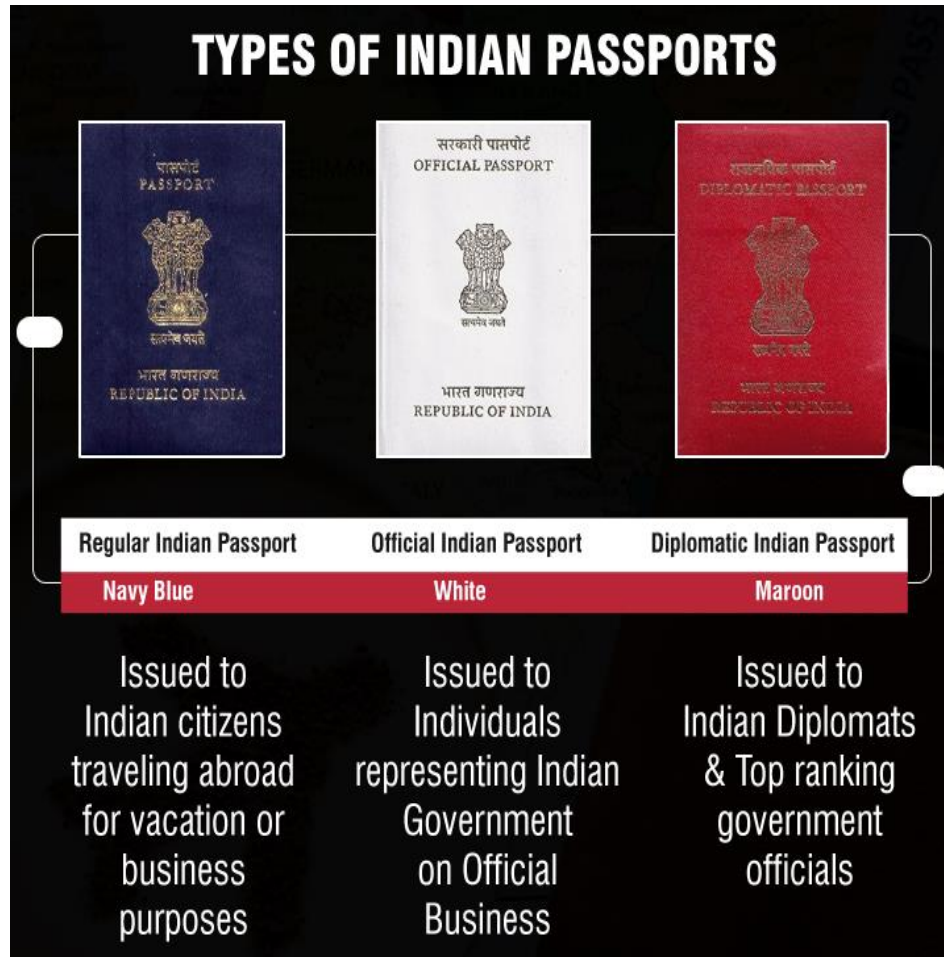
- ❖ 2024 Global Report on Food Crisis (GRFC) was produced by the Food Security Information Network and launched by the Global Network Against Food Crises.
- ❖ Nearly 282 million people faced high levels of acute food insecurity in 59 countries in 2023.
- ❖ Overall, 1 in 5 people assessed were in need of critical urgent action.
- ❖ Acute food insecurity deteriorated in 12 countries with comparable data between 2022 and 2023.
- ❖ From here, 13.5 million more people needed urgent assistance, mostly in Sudan.
- ❖ Meanwhile, food security improved in 17 countries with comparable data between 2022 and 2023.



### Passport Affordability Rankings

- ❖ The Indian passport has come across as the second cheapest to obtain passport in the world after the UAE.

- ❖ Indian passports are also the cheapest in terms of cost per year of validity.
- ❖ South Africa and Kenya were in second and third place.
- ❖ However, with an Indian passport, people can only travel to 62 nations visa-free.
- ❖ The number one spot taken by the UAE is cheapest in cost of acquisition and number of countries for visa-free access.



## SPORTS

### The Laureus World Sports Awards 2024

- ❖ 24-time Grand Slam champion Novak Djokovic won the Laureus Sportsman of the Year honour for a record 5th time.
- ❖ Spain's FIFA World Cup winner Aitana Bonmati became the first footballer to win the Laureus Sportswoman of the Year honour.
- ❖ England's star footballer Jude Bellingham won the Laureus Breakthrough of the Year award for his early impact at Real Madrid.

- ❖ Famous gymnast Simone Biles was recognised for her sensational comeback to the sport last year.
- ❖ Laureus World Team of the Year Award given to Spain Women's Football Team.



## IMPORTANT DAYS

### Khongjom Day 2024 - April 23

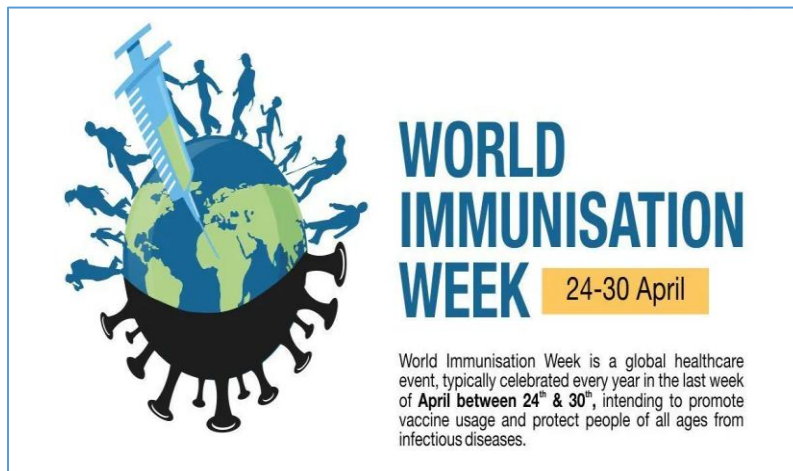


- ❖ It commemorates the bravery of the state's soldiers who fought in the 1891 Anglo-Manipuri War.
- ❖ The battle occurred at Khongjom in Manipur's Thoubal district.

- ❖ It marked the start of the British colonialism in the region.

### **World Immunization Week 2024 - April 24 to 30**

- ❖ Its goal is to increase vaccination rates and shield people of all ages against infectious illnesses.
- ❖ In 2024, the Expanded Programme on Immunisation (EPI) of the World Health Organisation will commemorate its 50th anniversary.
- ❖ The theme for 2024 is “Humanly Possible: Immunization for All”.



### **World Day for Safety and Health at Work 2024 - April 28**



- ❖ In 2003, the International Labour Organization (ILO) designated this day.





- ❖ It aims to increase awareness about the significance of safety and health in the workplace.
- ❖ On this day in 1971, the Occupational Safety and Health Convention adopted by the ILO.

