

August - 28

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd (NMDC), and FICCI organized an international conference on the Indian minerals and metals industry.
 - Theme of the event was ‘Transition Towards 2030 & Vision 2047’.
- ❖ VVS Laxman has been named the interim cricket head coach for the upcoming Asia Cup 2022.
- ❖ A first-of-its-kind, Composite Indoor Shooting Range (CISR) was inaugurated by Vice Admiral Biswajit Dasgupta at INS Karna.
 - INS Karna is the first in the Navy & the only military unit in the country use a facility of this kind.
- ❖ Prime Minister inaugurated the Homi Bhabha Cancer Hospital and Research Centre at Mullanpur, Mohali in Chandigarh.

INTERNATIONAL

The Worst Europe’s Drought



- ❖ It is being said that never has a European summer been so dry since 1540.
- ❖ In 1540, a year-long drought killed tens of thousands of people.
- ❖ As per the recent report by the Global Drought Observatory, 47% of Europe now lies in “warning” conditions.
- ❖ Moreover, 17% of Europe’s areas show “signs of stress” in vegetation.
- ❖ Preliminary data says that the ongoing drought is apparently the worst in at least 500 years.

- ❖ The Global Drought Observatory is a part of the European Commission's Research wing.

UNSC procedural vote on Ukraine



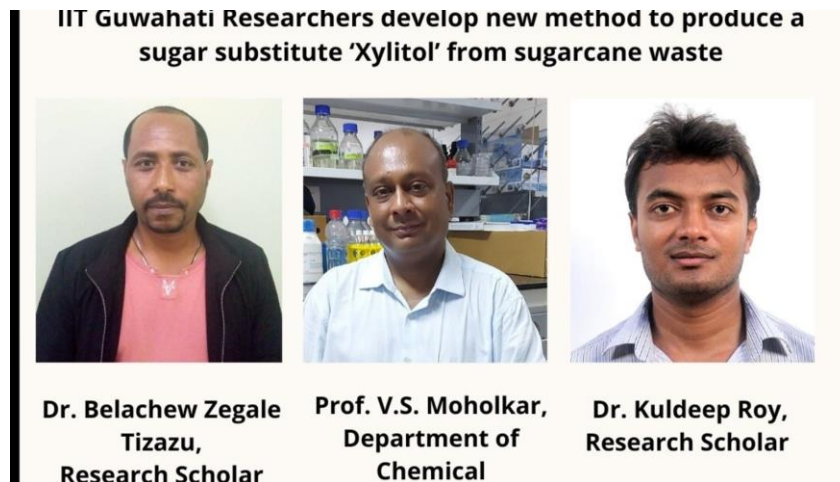
- ❖ India, for the first time, voted against Russia at UNSC during a procedural vote against Ukraine.
- ❖ The UN body was voting on inviting Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to address a meeting through video conference.
- ❖ Russian Ambassador requested a procedural vote on the issue of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky addressing the council.
- ❖ India currently is a non-permanent member of the UNSC for a two-year term, which ends in December.
- ❖ In response to Russia's request, a procedural vote was held.
- ❖ In that, out of 15 members of UNSC, 13 voted in favour of allowing Zelensky to address the council.
- ❖ Russia voted against it and China decided to abstain.
- ❖ Decisions of the Security Council on procedural matters shall be made by an affirmative vote of nine members.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Sugar substitute "Xylitol"

- ❖ IIT Guwahati have created a fermentation process that uses ultrasound to safely generate Xylitol from sugarcane bagasse.

- ❖ It is the by-product of crushing sugar cane.
- ❖ This approach gets over the operational constraints of chemical synthesis and the time lags of traditional fermentation.
- ❖ The use of ultrasound during the fermentation process reduced the time of fermentation to 15 hours.
- ❖ It also increased the yield of the product by almost 20%.



STATES

Night Safari in Lucknow



- ❖ Uttar Pradesh Tourism Department to start the country's first night time safari of wildlife in the capital Lucknow.
- ❖ This night safari in Lucknow will be developed on 350 acres in Kukrail forest area.
- ❖ It is spread over an area of 2027.46 hectare.

- ❖ And a zoological park will be built in 150 acres.
- ❖ Here separate safaris will be made for Tiger, Leopard and Bear.
- ❖ Lucknow's historic Nawab Wajid Ali Shah Zoological Garden will be shifted from the present place to Night Safari.
- ❖ Kukrail river will be developed as a beautiful riverfront.
- ❖ Toy train will also be run in Night Safari.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Pulitzer Prize 2022



- ❖ Bangladesh-born Fahmida Azim has been selected for the Pulitzer Prize 2022.
- ❖ She will be awarded under the category of Illustrated Reporting and Commentary.
- ❖ She is among the four journalists including Anthony Del Col, Josh Adams and Walt Hickey of Insider being published from New York, selected for their work on the Chinese oppression of the Uyghurs.
- ❖ The work 'I escaped a Chinese internment Camp' has illustrations by Fahmida Azim.

Liberty Medal 2022

- ❖ The Liberty Medal 2022 will be awarded this fall to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.
- ❖ The National Constitution Center of USA has announced that Zelenskyy will be honoured for "his heroic defence of liberty in the face of Russian tyranny."

- ❖ He has been the recipient of awards such as the Ronald Reagan Freedom Award and the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award.
- ❖ He also got honours from the governments of the Czech Republic, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, and Slovakia.



Solo flight around world



- ❖ Mack Rutherford (17) became the youngest person to fly solo around the world in a small aircraft.
- ❖ Mack landed in Bulgaria's capital of Sofia to complete his task and claim two Guinness World Records.

- ❖ Along with this he is becoming the youngest person to fly around the world by himself.
- ❖ Rutherford is the youngest person to circumnavigate the globe in a microlight plane.

Stockholm Water Prize 2022



- ❖ Professor Emeritus Wilfried Brutsaert has been named as the Stockholm Water Prize Laureate 2022.
- ❖ He has been awarded for his groundbreaking work to quantify environmental evaporation.
- ❖ His innovative works on Evaporation and Hydrology are of lasting theoretical and practical importance, particularly in view of climate change.
- ❖ In addition, he has pioneered novel approaches to understanding changes in groundwater storage.
- ❖ The Stockholm Water Prize is the world's most prestigious water award and is often described as the Nobel Prize of water.
- ❖ The prestigious Prize has been awarded since 1991 to people and organizations for extraordinary water-related achievements.

MISCELLANEOUS

Report of Bank of America Securities India

- ❖ India is on its journey to surpass all the records of developing rail lines and highways.

- ❖ The report claims that in the year 2025, the county will have constructed more highways and rail lines than it has cumulatively built between 1950 and 2015.
- ❖ Resultantly, it is being calculated that India will have over 1.2 lakh km of railway lines and 1.8 lakh km of highways by 2025.
- ❖ Between 1950 and 2015, the nation built only 4,000 kilometres of national highways.
- ❖ It is taking the total length to 77,000 kilometres in 2015.
- ❖ However, the highway length is on course to cross 1.8 lakh kilometres by 2025 - more than double the existing length in ten years' time.
- ❖ The nation had only 10,000 kilometres of rail lines in 1950.
- ❖ It rose to 63,000 kilometres in 2015.
- ❖ But it is expected to touch 1.2 lakh kilometres in 2025.
- ❖ The port capacity, which was only 777 MTPA in 1995, rose to 1,911 MTPA in 2015.
- ❖ It is on course to more than double to 3,000 MTPA by 2025

