

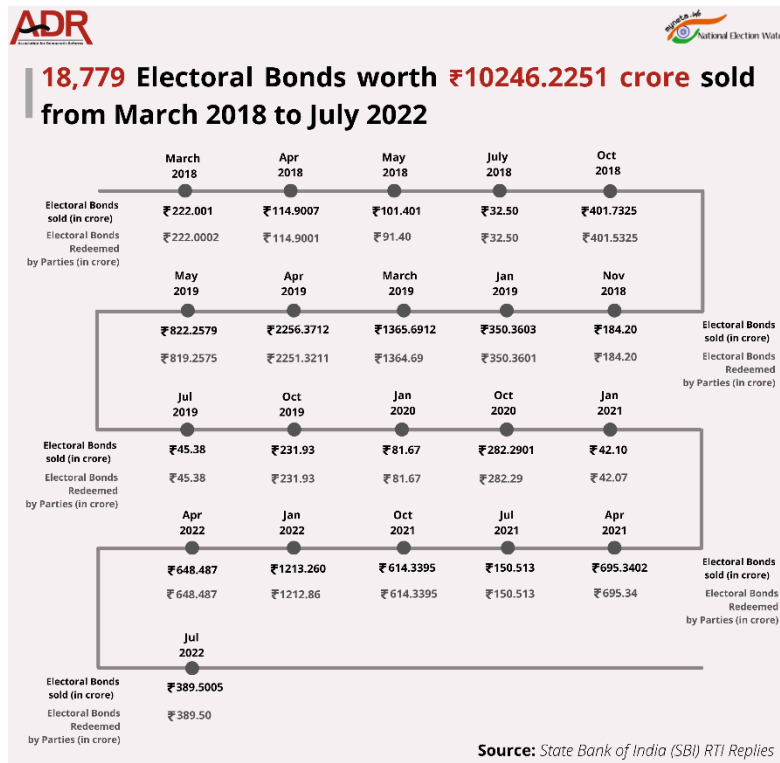
December - 05

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The IPL 2022 final between Gujarat Titans and Rajasthan Royals at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad was attended by 1,01,566 people, setting a new Guinness world record.
- ❖ India's biggest Yoga Centre has been constructed in village Mantalai in the Chenani Tehsil of Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur.

NATIONAL

Data on Sale of Electoral Bonds



- ❖ Mumbai sold the highest number an electoral bond since the scheme launched.
- ❖ In terms of numbers and value, Mumbai, Kolkata, and Hyderabad sold the most electoral bonds since the scheme was introduced in 2018.
- ❖ Mumbai accounted for 25.4 per cent of the total electoral bonds sold by value.
- ❖ Kolkata sold the second-highest number of electoral bonds.
- ❖ Mumbai, Kolkata and Hyderabad sold the highest number of bonds of Rs.1 crore denomination.



- ❖ Not even a single electoral bond was sold in Gangtok, Ranchi and Srinagar.
- ❖ Electoral bond scheme was launched by the Central Government to create transparency in the donations to political parties.
- ❖ Electoral bonds under this scheme are sold four times a year for 10 days.
- ❖ They allow political parties to accept money from anonymous donors.
- ❖ SBI is the only authorized bank to sell and redeem these bonds.

ECONOMY

Investment opportunities in space cooling

- ❖ The world bank released a report named, "Climate Investment Opportunities in India's Cooling Sector."
- ❖ Market potential and investment opportunities in space cooling will be \$1.5 trillion by 2040 in India.
- ❖ The report suggests a sustainable roadmap for cooling that has the potential to reduce 300 million tons of carbon dioxide annually by 2040."
- ❖ India is experiencing higher temperatures every year.
- ❖ By 2030, over 160-200 million people across the country could be exposed to lethal heat waves annually.
- ❖ Around 34 million people in India will face job losses due to heat stress related productivity decline."
- ❖ World Bank said the current food loss due to heat during transportation is close to \$13 billion annually.
- ❖ The report proposes a road map to support New Delhi's India Cooling Action Plan (ICAP), 2019, through new investments in three major sectors: building construction, cold chains and refrigerants.

RBI retail digital rupee

- ❖ The retail pilot of the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) digital currency went live on December 1, 2022.
- ❖ It is advertised as e-Rupee or digital rupee.
- ❖ The RBI's central bank digital currency (CBDC) is an electronic form of sovereign currency.
- ❖ Retail digital rupee can provide access to safe money for payment and settlement as it is a direct liability of the central bank.

- ❖ Eight banks have been identified for phase-wise participation in the retail pilot of the digital rupee in four cities across the country.
- ❖ In the first phase, four banks including State Bank of India, ICICI Bank, YES Bank, and IDFC First Bank will take part in the pilot launch.
- ❖ The pilot will initially cover four cities — Mumbai, New Delhi, Bengaluru, and Bhubaneswar.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Hydrogen-Run Aircraft Engine

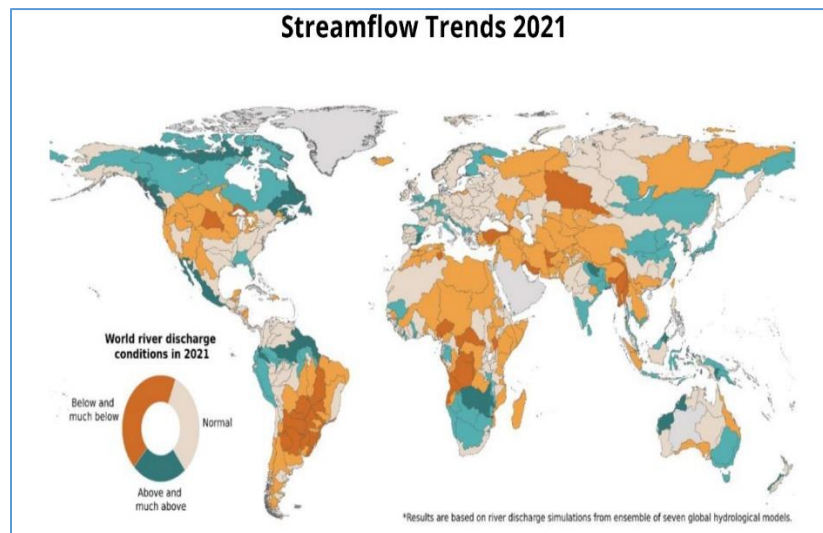


- ❖ Airline EasyJet and Aircraft Engine maker Rolls-Royce announced that they have successfully tested a hydrogen-powered aircraft engine.
- ❖ This is described as a world first for aviation.
- ❖ Green hydrogen is widely seen as better for the environment than jet fuel.

- ❖ The company tested a turboprop fan engine that is used on small regional flights aircrafts.
- ❖ Green hydrogen for the tests had been generated using tidal and wind energy from Scotland's Orkney Islands.

REPORTS AND INDICES

State of Global Water Resources 2021

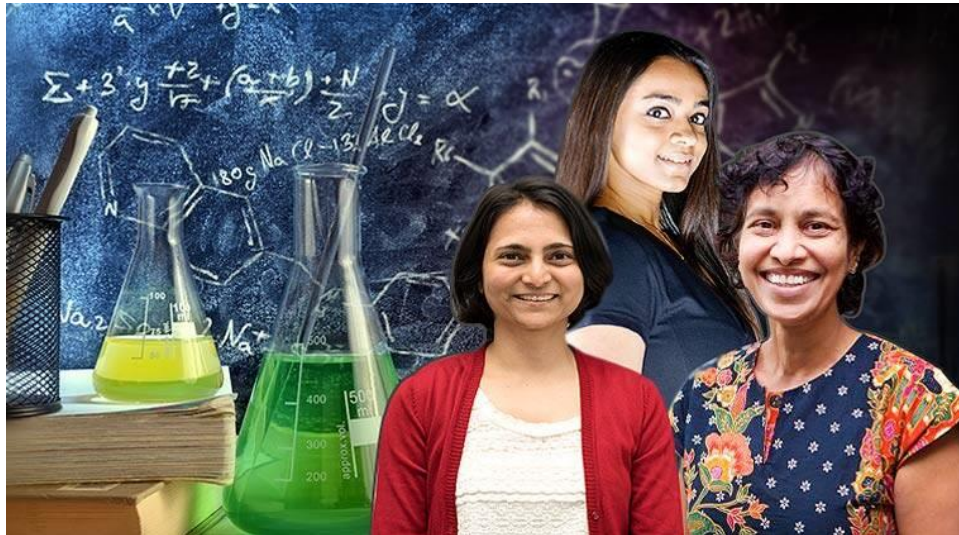


- ❖ The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) recently released its first State of Global Water Resources Report.
- ❖ It aims to assess the impact of environmental, climatic and social changes on the world's water resources.
- ❖ Its objective is to support the monitoring and effective management of freshwater resources across the world at a time when the demand is high and supply is very limited.
- ❖ In 2021, rivers in Africa like Niger, Volta, Nile and Congo experienced less than normal discharge.
- ❖ Rivers in several parts of Russia, West Siberia and Central Asia also experienced lower-than-average discharge during the same period.
- ❖ Major flood events occurred in China, north India, western Europe.
- ❖ Countries affected by Tropical cyclones are like Mozambique, the Philippines and Indonesia.
- ❖ Countries like Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia have experienced several consecutive years of below-average rainfall

- ❖ In 2021, places like the US' west coast, central part of South America and Patagonia, North Africa and Madagascar, Central Asia and the Middle East, Pakistan and North India had below-normal terrestrial water storage.
- ❖ In the long term, several places are expected to experience a negative trend in terrestrial water storage.
- ❖ These include Rio Sao Francisco basin in Brazil, Patagonia, the Ganges and Indus headwaters and the south-western US.
- ❖ The negative trends are stronger than the positive ones.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Australia's "Superstars Of STEM"



- ❖ Three Indian-origin women are among 60 scientists, technologists, engineers, and mathematicians who have been selected as Australia's Superstars of STEM.
- ❖ The three Indian-origin women are - Neelima Kadiyala, Dr Ana Babu Ramani, and Dr Indrani Mukherjee.
- ❖ It is an initiative that aims to smash society's gender assumptions about scientists and increase the public visibility of females and non-binary people.

Miss Earth 2022

- ❖ South Korea's Mina Sue Choi was crowned as Miss Earth 2022.
- ❖ There were 86 Eco-warriors, and only three queens were awarded the pageant's three elements' titles.
 - Miss Fire 2022 - Andrea Aguilera of Columbia,

- Miss Water 2022 - Nadeen Ayoub of Palestine, and
- Miss Air 2022 - Sheridan Mortlock of Australia.



MISCELLANEOUS

French baguettes



- ❖ The French baguette was given UNESCO heritage status.
- ❖ The baguette is a long and thin loaf made of flour, water, salt and yeast.
- ❖ And it is consumed as a staple in France.
- ❖ According to the National Federation of French Bakeries, more than six billion are baked every year in France.



- ❖ UNESCO, 'intangible cultural heritage' includes "oral traditions, performing arts, social practices, rituals, festive events, knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe or the knowledge and skills to produce traditional crafts."

