

December - 24

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ A first-of-its-kind Tribal Winter Festival was held in the Bandipora district of Jammu and Kashmir.
 - People from the Kashmiri community, Gujjars and Bakerwals danced together to the beats of dhol (drum).
- ❖ India has declared its candidature for non-permanent membership of the UN Security Council for the 2028-29 term.
 - India's 2021-2022 term on the Council ends December 31, 2022.

NATIONAL

First Green steel brand



- ❖ The Union Steel Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia unveiled KALYANI FeRRESTA, in New Delhi.
- ❖ It is India's first green steel brand.
- ❖ It was created by the Kalyani Group, a Pune-based steel manufacturer.
- ❖ It is utilizing renewable energy resources, leaving no carbon footprints in the environment.

Vice-chairman panel – PT Usha



- ❖ Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar has nominated legendary former athlete PT Usha to the panel of vice-chairperson in the upper house of the Parliament.




- ❖ PT Usha was also elected as the president of the Indian Olympic Association recently.
- ❖ She is often called the “Queen of Indian track and field”.




Millets Promotion


  #AatmaNirbharBharatKaBudget

2023 has been announced as the **International Year of Millets**





UNION BUDGET
— 2022 - 2023 —





- ❖ Recently, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations organised the opening ceremony of the International Year of Millets – 2023 (IYOM 2023) in Rome, Italy.
- ❖ The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) accepted the proposal by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to celebrate 2023 as the International Year of Millets.
- ❖ To raise awareness about the importance of millet, the Agriculture Ministry is hosting a Millet food festival in Parliament for the members.

New AERB chairperson

- ❖ Senior nuclear scientist Dinesh Kumar Shukla has been appointed as the chairperson of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) for a period of three years.
- ❖ He succeeds G Nageswara Rao.
- ❖ The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) was constituted in 1983 by the President of India by exercising the powers conferred by the Atomic Energy Act, 1962.
- ❖ It aims to carry out certain regulatory and safety functions under the Act.
- ❖ The regulatory authority of AERB is derived from the Atomic Energy Act, 1962 and the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986.
- ❖ The headquarters is in Mumbai.
- ❖ The mission of the Board is to ensure that the use of ionising radiation and nuclear energy in India does not cause undue risk to health and the environment.



Government of India

AERB

Atomic Energy Regulatory Board

INTERNATIONAL

Kosovo in European Union

- ❖ Kosovo formally submitted an application for membership to the European Union.
- ❖ Kosovo is the last western Balkan country to apply for EU membership

- ❖ Kosovo is a mainly ethnic Albanian territory that declared independence from Serbia in 2008.
- ❖ But Serbia along with its key allies Russia and China still considers it a part of Serbia.
- ❖ So, Kosovo is not a member of the United Nations.
- ❖ Five EU members — Greece, Spain, Romania, Slovakia and Cyprus — also do not recognize Kosovo as an independent state.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Vainu Bappu Telescope

- ❖ Recently it made the celebrations of 50 years of operations.
- ❖ This telescope was set up in 1972 by Professor Vainu Bappu at Kavalur, Tamilnadu.
- ❖ Kavalur is a village in the Jawadhu Hills in Vaniyambadi taluk, in Tirupathur district.

- ❖ The skies above Kavalur were excellent, and its southern location would allow it to see most of the northern and southern skies.
- ❖ It has played a significant role in astronomy with major discoveries like the presence of rings around the planet Uranus, a new satellite of Uranus, the presence of an atmosphere around Ganymede which is a satellite of Jupiter.
- ❖ It also includes the discovery and study of many 'Be Stars', Lithium depletion in giant stars, optical variability in Blazars, and the dynamics of the famous supernova SN 1987A.
- ❖ Starting from the Cassegrain photometer and Echelle spectrograph in 1976, the new grating spectrograph in 1978, the fast-chopping polarimeter in 1988 with its replacement in 2016, and the latest NIR photometer in 2021, the observatory has constantly been upgrading its facilities.



'Pralay' Ballistic Missile

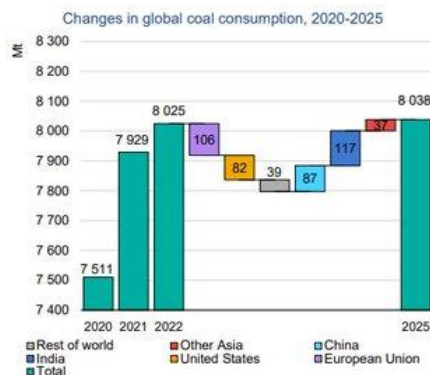
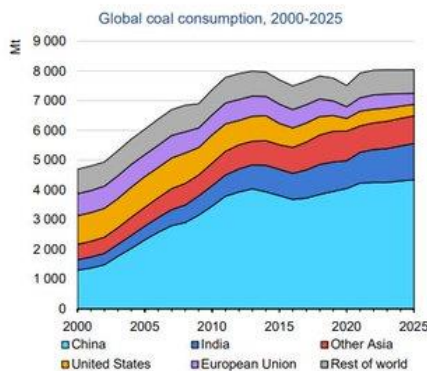


- ❖ The Indian armed forces are now set to procure the 'Pralay' ballistic missile.
- ❖ It can hit the target from 150 to 500 km.
- ❖ Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) had successfully conducted the maiden flight test of this indigenously developed surface-to-surface missile 'Pralay'.
- ❖ It was done from Dr A P J Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha in December 2021.
- ❖ Pralay is powered with a solid propellant rocket motor.
- ❖ The new missile followed the desired quasi ballistic trajectory and reached the designated target with high degree accuracy, validating the control, guidance and mission algorithm.

REPORTS AND INDICES

Coal 2022: Analysis and forecast to 2025

Global coal consumption set to plateau through 2025



- ❖ It was released by the International Energy Agency (IEA).
- ❖ It says coal is set to continue to be the growth engine of global coal demand.
- ❖ There is an absence of low-emissions alternatives that can replace coal at scale in the iron and steel sector in the near term.
- ❖ In 2022, the Global coal demand reached eight billion tonnes in a single for the first time.
- ❖ It was eclipsing the previous record set in 2013.
- ❖ India, along with China, is the world's largest coal producer, consumer, and importer.
- ❖ India's own coal production will surpass a billion tonnes by 2022.

- ❖ India's coal consumption has doubled since 2007 at an annual growth rate of 6 per cent.
- ❖ India and China, are also the only two countries globally where there has been an uptick in investment in coal mine assets.

SPORTS

9th Pro Kabaddi League title



- ❖ Jaipur Pink Panthers won the Pro Kabaddi League Season 9 Final against Puneri Paltan.
- ❖ It was Jaipur's second PKL championship.
- ❖ The Jaipur team is owned by Abhishek Bachchan.
- ❖ After Patna, Jaipur Pink Panthers, the league's first-ever winners, are currently only the second team to win multiple titles.
- ❖ The tournament was played across Bengaluru, Pune, and Hyderabad while the playoffs were played in Mumbai.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Good Governance Week 2022

- ❖ Union Minister for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions Dr. Jitendra Singh has inaugurated Good Governance Week 2022 (from 19-25 December) at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.

- ❖ The Minister also launched a five-day “Prashasan Gaon Ki Ore” a nationwide Campaign, to commemorate the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
- ❖ On the memory of India’s former Prime Minister, Bharat Ratna Late Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the Good Governance Day (December 25) and Good Governance Week are celebrated.

