

December - 27

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for copra for 2023 season.
 - The MSP for Fair Average Quality of milling copra has been fixed at Rs. 10860/- per quintal and for ball copra at Rs. 11750/- per quintal.
- ❖ Sania Mirza, from Uttar Pradesh, might become India's first Muslim woman fighter pilot after she cleared the National Defence Academy (NDA) examination.

NATIONAL

Lion @ 47: Vision for Amrutkal

DECISIONS MADE

- No translocation outside Saurashtra
- Government to focus on natural dispersal of lions
- No increase in area of Gir National Park
- No shifting Maldharis from Gir Sanctuary
- Barda Dungar, Bhavnagar and coastal areas of Saurashtra to be strengthened
- Facilitating more diverse breeding to strengthen the gene pools within Saurashtra
- Barda to be taken up on priority
- Disease monitoring and research centre for lion research
- NCA to play major role in the project and monitor lion counts

Royal ride for tourists

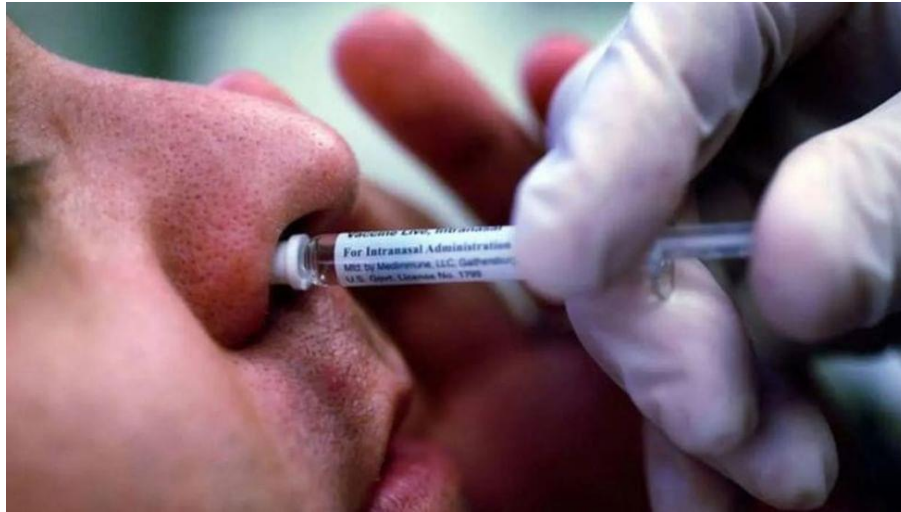
Project Lion includes the mission to develop tourism circuits in Saurashtra in which lion habitats will be important attractions, forest department officials said. For example, the Somnath-Dwarka circuit will include Devaliya, Sasan, and Porbandar.

- ❖ The central government has unveiled a plan for the conservation of Asiatic lions in Gir, Titled “Lion@47: Vision for Amrutkal.
- ❖ The plan is part of Project Lion and aims to secure and restore habitats to manage the growing lion population.
- ❖ It also aims to generate livelihoods for local communities, establish a global hub of knowledge on big cat disease diagnostics and treatment, and promote inclusive biodiversity conservation.

Intranasal Covid vaccine

- ❖ Bharat Biotech's intranasal Covid vaccine has been approved by the Union Health Ministry as a booster dose.
- ❖ It will be introduced on the Co-WIN platform for those above 18 years of age.

- ❖ The nasal vaccine -- BBV154 -- received approval of the Drugs Controller General of India.



INTERNATIONAL

Singapore Declaration



- ❖ The 17th Asia and the Pacific Regional Meeting of the International Labour Organization adopted the “Singapore Declaration”.
- ❖ It aims to ensure social dialogue to address challenges associated with labour market and finding solutions for crises like the COVID-19 pandemic, natural disasters, and economic uncertainty.

- ❖ It provides a shared vision of 10-point priorities of national action of members of the ILO to deal with issues like dwindling wages, inflation and unemployment.

First-ever Resolution on Myanmar

- ❖ The U.N. Security Council adopted its first resolution on Myanmar in 74 years.
- ❖ It demands an end to violence and urge the military regime to release all political prisoners, including overthrown leader Aung San Suu Kyi.
- ❖ Myanmar has been in crisis since the army took power from Suu Kyi's elected government on Feb. 1, 2021.
- ❖ China and Russia abstained from the vote, along with India.
- ❖ The remaining 12 members voted in favour.

ECONOMY

32 trillion dollar trade in 2022

- ❖ The value of global trade is set to reach a new record this year.
- ❖ It is increasing by about 12 per cent to an estimated \$32 trillion.
- ❖ This is reported by United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.
- ❖ Trade in merchandise goods ascended to \$25 trillion.
- ❖ It is an increase of about 10 per cent versus the prior year.
- ❖ Trade in services grew 15 per cent year-over-year to nearly \$7 trillion

Banknotes with women's signatures

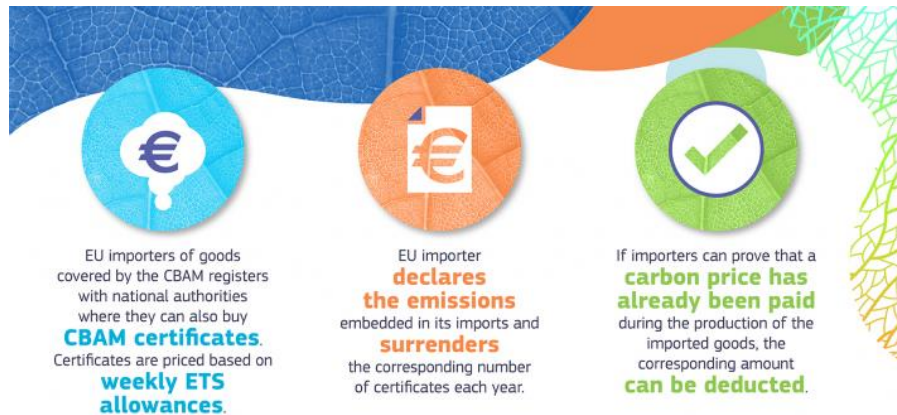


- ❖ United States of America's Finance Ministry has printed the first US currency notes with two women's signatures.

- ❖ The new currency notes of \$1 and \$5 value carry the signature of the Secretary of Treasury (American Finance Minister) Janet Yellen and Lynn Malerba.
- ❖ The United States currency notes are popularly called as Greenback.

ENVIRONMENT

Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism

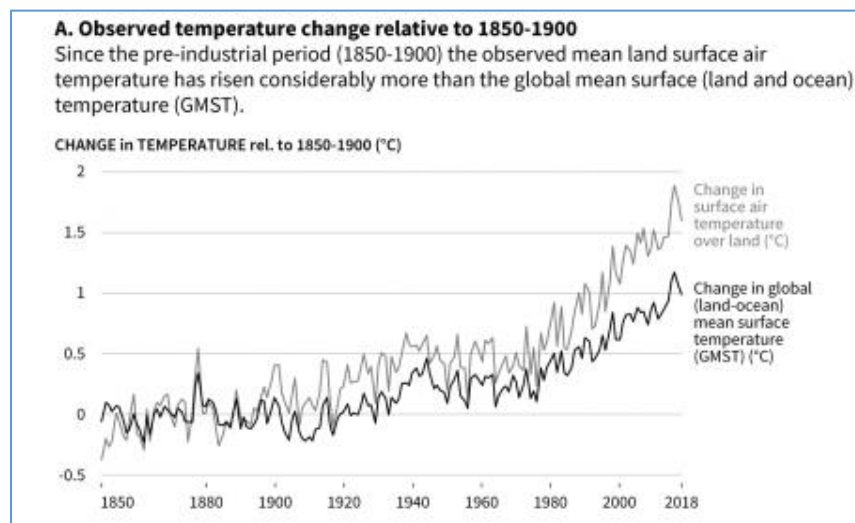


- ❖ European Union announced a historic reform within the bloc's carbon market.
- ❖ This reform serves as the central plank in the EU's ambitions to reduce carbon emissions and invest in climate-friendly technologies.
- ❖ The deal includes provisions such as accelerated emission cuts, phased out of free allowances to industries.
- ❖ The carbon border tax is the most unique initiative.
- ❖ It marks the world's first major step aimed at making the economy carbon-neutral by 2050.
- ❖ The Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) is also known as the Carbon Border Tax.
- ❖ It adds pollution values to certain EU imports.
- ❖ This measure makes it necessary for carbon-intensive industries to adhere to stringent emission standards.
- ❖ Carbon Border Tax is a duty levied on imports based on the amount of carbon emissions.

Report on “Climate Change and Land”

- ❖ The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s (IPCC) released a Special report on Climate Change and Land.

- ❖ Human use directly affects more than 70% (likely 69–76%) of the global, ice-free land surface.
- ❖ The current intensive agriculture system has led to soil degradation and constant losses.
- ❖ There may not be enough soil to feed the world in next 50 years.
- ❖ Since the outbreak of the Second World War, we have recorded atmospheric carbon dioxide levels rising to 1.3 parts per million per year.
- ❖ This is four times faster than in the previous 100 years and 400 times faster than in the last 5,000 years.
- ❖ Despite our increasing knowledge about the environmental impact of our food, global meat consumption increased by 58% between 1998 and 2018.
- ❖ Vegetable oil consumption registered an approximately 30% increase since 2013.
- ❖ Rice consumption worldwide increase of 17% since 2008, and wheat recorded a 6% rise.



Decline of Polar Bear Population

- ❖ Western Hudson Bay polar bear population in Canada has declined by 27 percent in the past 5 years.
- ❖ There are 19 polar bear populations spread across Russia, Alaska, Norway, Greenland and Canada.
- ❖ The polar bear population in Western Hudson Bay is expected to be among the first to go extinct.
- ❖ The number of polar bears in the region has declined by 11 percent between 2011 and 2016.

- ❖ Currently there are only 618 polar bears remaining in 2021.
- ❖ This is roughly a 50 percent decline from the 1980s population figures.



IMPORTANT DAYS

Good Governance Day - December 25



- ❖ This day marking the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
- ❖ Atal Bihari Vajpayee was born on December 25, 1924 in Gwalior, present-day Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ He became Prime Minister in 1996 (for 16 days).
- ❖ In 1998–1999, he was elected prime minister for a second term.



- ❖ On October 13, 1999, he was elected as the nation's prime minister for the third time.
- ❖ He was the first head of state to address the UN in Hindi.
- ❖ The "Bharat Ratna" award was given to him on March 27, 2015.

