

December - 31

TAMIL NADU

Debris Free Gulf of Mannar

- ❖ The state forest department has joined hands with HCL Foundation (HCLF) to resolve the ghost net and marine debris problem in the Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park, Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ Discarded or lost fishing gears is known as 'Ghost nets'.
- ❖ It poses a severe threat to coastal and marine habitats across the globe.
- ❖ A three-year action plan and 'Debris Free Gulf of Mannar' mass awareness campaigns for a larger citizen's action will also be conducted.



Nilgiri Tahr conservation Project

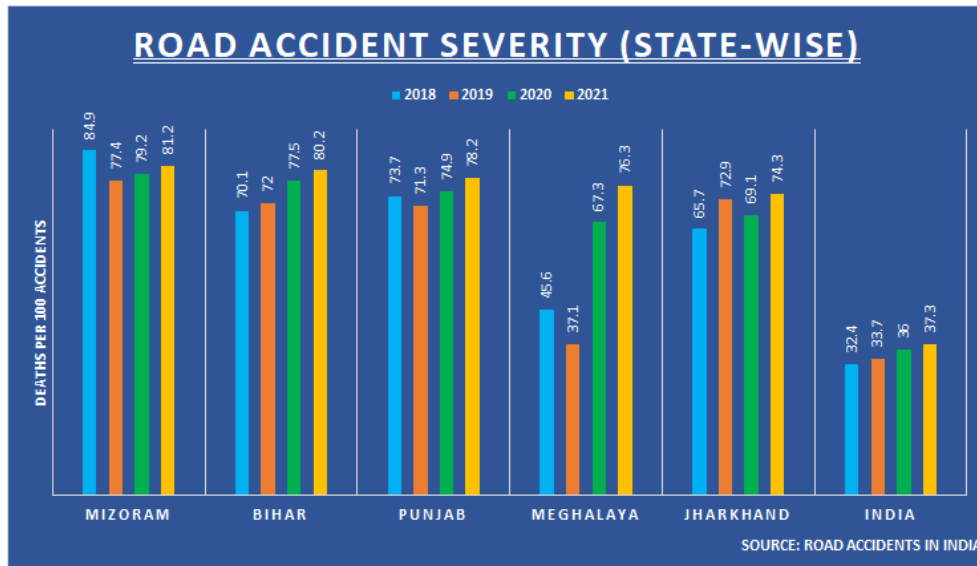
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government launched an initiative for the conservation of the State animal - Nilgiri Tahr.
- ❖ Under The project, the government plans
 - To develop a better understanding of the Nilgiri Tahr population through surveys and radio telemetry studies;
 - To reintroduce the Tahr to their historical habitat and address proximate threats;
 - Also, to increase public awareness of the species.
- ❖ The project is to be implemented from 2022 to 2027.

- ❖ Furthermore, October 7 will be celebrated as 'Nilgiri Tahr Day' in honour of E.R.C. Davidar.
- ❖ He was responsible for pioneering one of the first studies of the species in 1975.
- ❖ It is an endangered species and the sole Caprinae species found in the tropical mountains of southern India.



NATIONAL

Road Accidents in India 2021



- ❖ The Union Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways has published its annual report 'Road accidents in India 2021'.
- ❖ India witnessed as many as 4,12,432 road accidents in 2021.
- ❖ By these accidents 1,53,972 people were killed.

- ❖ Around 3,84,448 individuals were injured.
- ❖ Road accidents are increased by 12.6% y-o-y in 2021.
- ❖ The number of fatalities caused by road accidents has increased by 1.9 percent in 2021, when compared to the same period in 2019.

Recognition to Esports

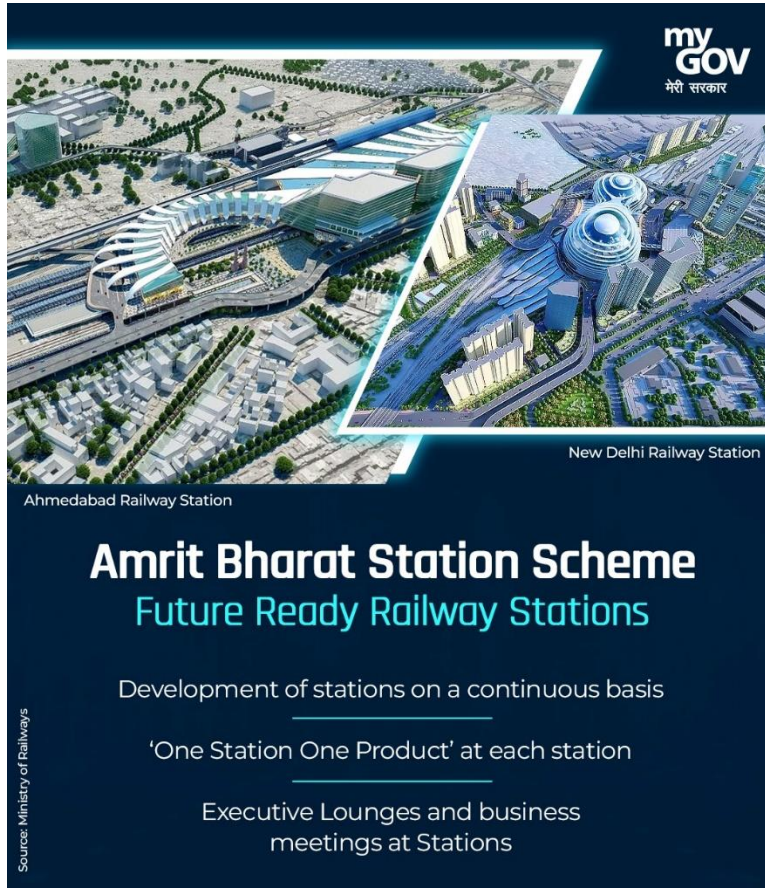


- ❖ The Government of India integrating E-sports with mainline sports disciplines in the country.
- ❖ The President of India exercise the powers "conferred by clause (3) of article 77 of the Constitution" amended the rules governing Esports.
- ❖ Now, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and the Sports Ministry can include "e-Sports as part of multi-sports events".
- ❖ e-Sports was included in the 2018 Jakarta Asian Games as a demonstration sport.
- ❖ It means medals won in the sport were not counted in the official overall medals tally.
- ❖ IT Ministry will be the nodal agency for online gaming-related matters.

Amrit Bharat Station Scheme

- ❖ The Union Ministry of Railways has launched a new scheme called Amrit Bharat Station Scheme to modernize railway stations across India.
- ❖ It is to enhance the facilities beyond the minimum essential amenities and creating roof plazas and city centers at the station premises in the long-term.

- ❖ The scheme will cater to the upgradation and replacement of existing amenities as well as the introduction of new amenities.
- ❖ It includes, Platforms, Internet connectivity, multi-design furniture, Inclusivity, Sustainability and Enhancing user experience.



ECONOMY

CEBR Forecast on Indian Economy

- ❖ The “World Economic League Table” is an annual publication of the CEBR (Centre for Economics and Business Research).
- ❖ This report tracks the macroeconomic trends at the global and national levels.
- ❖ It presents economic forecasts for 191 countries until 2037.
- ❖ India is expected to become the third economic superpower by 2037 and a 10 trillion USD economy by 2035.
- ❖ Over the next five years, India’s GDP growth is expected to average 6.4 percent each year.



- ❖ After this, the GDP is expected to grow at an average of 6.5 percent in the subsequent 9 years.
- ❖ On the World Economic League Table, India will jump in the global ranking from the present 5th position in 2022 to 3rd place by 2037.

League Table by 2037 ranking

Ranking out of 191	2007	2012	2017	2022	2023	2027	2032	2037
China	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	1
United States	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
India	12	11	6	5	5	4	3	3
Japan	2	3	3	3	4	3	4	4
Germany	4	4	4	4	3	5	5	5
United Kingdom	5	5	5	6	6	6	6	6
France	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7
Brazil	10	7	8	12	11	8	8	8
Korea	13	14	11	13	13	9	9	9
Canada	9	10	10	8	8	10	10	10

REPORTS AND INDICES

The Wheebox India Skills Report 2023

- ❖ The Wheebox India Skills Report 2023 was compiled by trade bodies, companies, educational institutions, and others.
- ❖ The last one year witnessed an increase in the employability of Indians.
- ❖ The evaluation found that 50.3 percent of the candidates were employable.
- ❖ This is a significant increase from the last year's 46.2 percent.
- ❖ The 52.8 percent of women workforce are employable.
- ❖ This is higher than the 47.2 percent of employable men.
- ❖ The current share of women in Indian workforce is 33 percent.
- ❖ This is lesser than the of males at 67 percent.
- ❖ In countries situated in South America, Asia, and Africa, women account for 36 percent of the total workforce.

- ❖ Rajasthan has the highest percentage (53.5 percent) of employable females who are prepared for the workforce.
- ❖ Rajasthan is followed by Uttar Pradesh with 46.5%.



STATES

Dhanu Yatra



- ❖ 'Dhanu Yatra', the World's largest open-air theatre festival began after a gap of two years, in Bargarh at the Odisha.
- ❖ The vibrant Dhanu Yatra Festival is associated with the culture of Odisha.

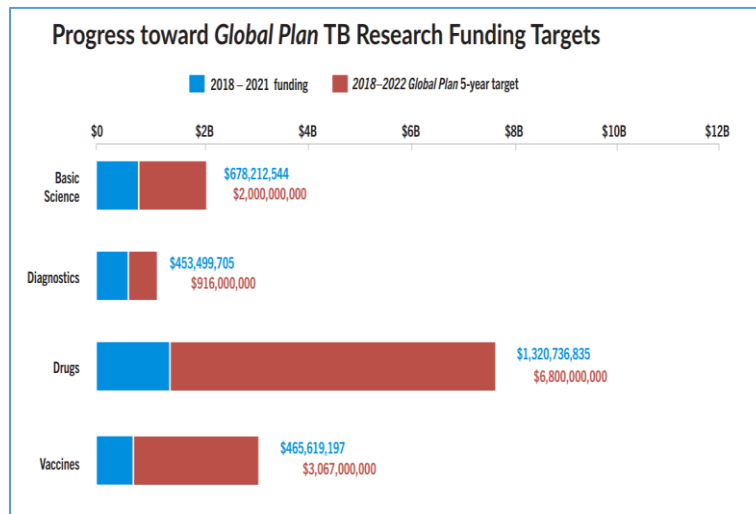
- ❖ The Dhanu Yatra was started after the harvesting season of the year 1947-48.
- ❖ The 11-day festival starts from the 5th day of 'Pousasukla' to end on 'Pousapurnima'.

First complete library constituency

- ❖ Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan's constituency has achieved a new record recently.
- ❖ His constituency Dharmadam has achieved the position of complete library constituency in India, the first in India.
- ❖ All 138 wards in the constituency now have libraries.

MISCELLANEOUS

TB Research Funding Trends 2005-2021



- ❖ Treatment Action Group (TAG) and the Stop TB Partnership released the report called Tuberculosis Research Funding Trends, 2005–2021.
- ❖ For the first time in history, funding for tuberculosis (TB) research and development (R&D) hit a billion dollars worldwide in 2021.
- ❖ But, this funding for TB R&D is a mere fraction of what's needed to achieve the United Nations' sustainable development goal of ending TB as a pandemic by 2030.
- ❖ Every day, 4,400 people continue to die from TB, a treatable and curable airborne infectious disease.

- ❖ The United Nations High-Level Meeting on TB in 2018 set the target of \$2 billion per annum for R&D.
- ❖ The Stop TB Partnership's 'Global Plan to End TB, 2023–2030' estimates the funding need for TB R&D to have gone up to \$5 billion per annum.

