



February - 08

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ British economist Meghnad Desai Authored a New Book titled “The Poverty of Political Economics”.
- ❖ The Adani Group acquired the strategic Israeli port of Haifa for USD 1.2 billion.
 - The Port of Haifa is the second largest port in Israel in terms of shipping containers and the biggest in shipping tourist cruise ships.

NATIONAL

Contesting two seats in one poll

WHAT THE REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT SAYS

SECTION 8(1) A person convicted for promoting enmity between different groups, rape, terrorist acts, insulting national flag etc stands disqualified for six years on mere conviction.

SECTION 8(2) A person convicted for hoarding, dowry offences etc. incurs disqualification if he is sentenced to at least six months for the offences. The bar continues for six years after release from jail.

SECTION 8(3) A person con-

victed of any other offence incurs disqualification if he is sentenced to an imprisonment of not less than two years. The disqualification continues till six years after release.

SECTION 8(4) Protects sitting MPs and MLAs from being disqualification under the above provisions. If they file an appeal within three months, they can continue as a member of the House till the completion of the term or till the decision on appeal, whichever is earlier.

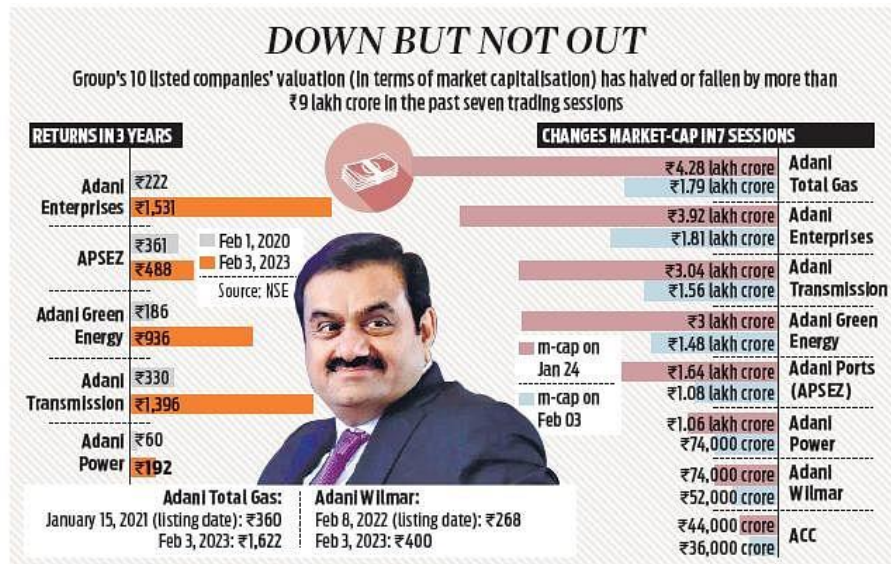
- ❖ The Supreme Court refused to remove a provision in the election law which allows candidates to contest polls from two constituencies simultaneously.
- ❖ The filed petition had sought the court to declare Section 33(7) of the Representation of People Act invalid and ultra vires.
- ❖ But the court chose to leave the issue to the wisdom of the Parliament.
- ❖ The Election Commission had, in an affidavit in 2018, supported the petition.

- ❖ It had informed the Supreme Court that it had proposed an amendment to Section 33(7) in July 2004.

ECONOMY

Additional Surveillance Mechanism

- ❖ The National Stock Exchange (NSE) placed Adani Enterprises, Adani Ports, and Ambuja Cements under the additional surveillance mechanism (ASM).
- ❖ This means trading in their shares will require a 100% margin.
- ❖ It is aimed at curbing speculation and short selling.
- ❖ The ASM was introduced on March 26, 2018 with the intention to protect investors from market volatility and unusual changes in share price.

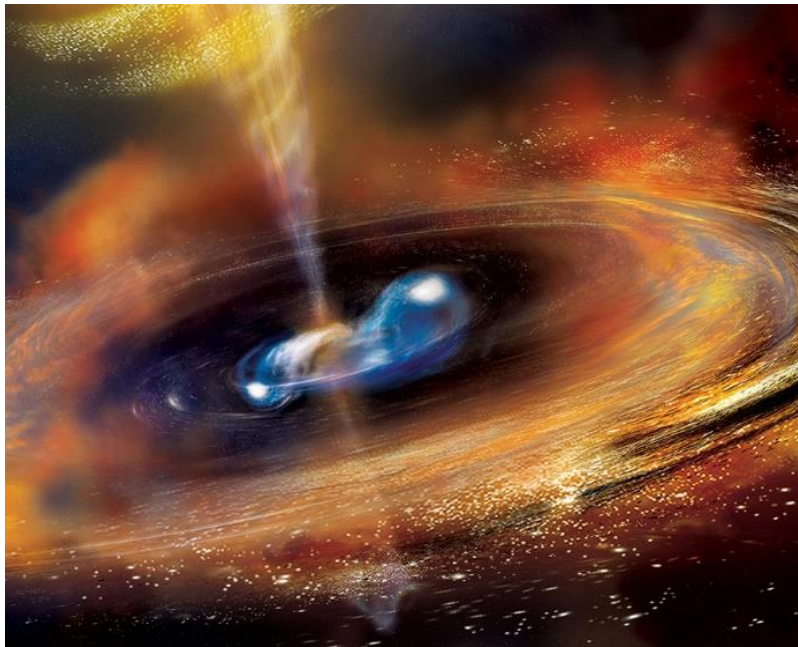


SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

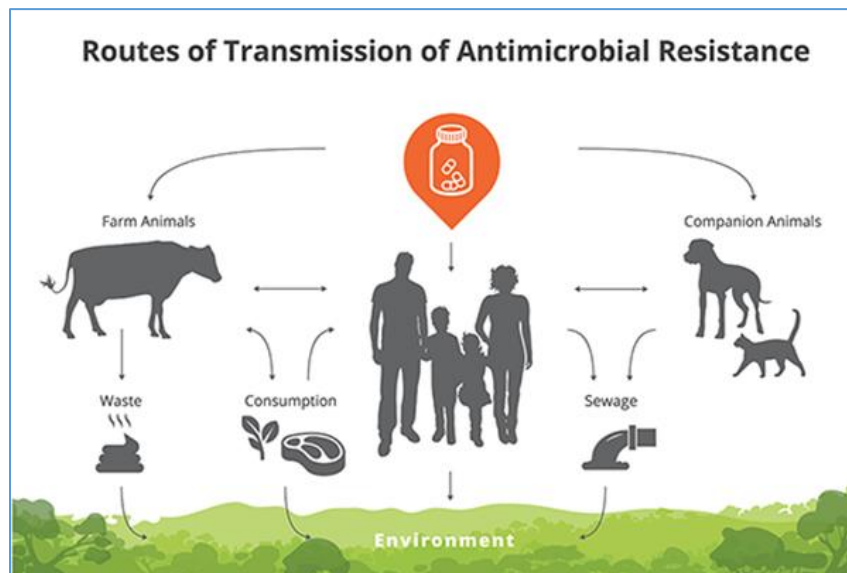
First Gamma-Ray Eclipses

- ❖ Scientists have discovered the first gamma-ray eclipses from a special type of binary star system using data from NASA's Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope.
- ❖ These so-called spider systems each contain a pulsar and rapidly rotating remains of a star that exploded in a supernova – that slowly erodes its companion.
- ❖ Spider systems develop because one star in a binary evolves more swiftly than its partner.

- ❖ A binary system is one in which two stars orbit around a common centre of mass, that is they are gravitationally bound to each other.
- ❖ Pulsars are rapidly spinning neutron stars.
- ❖ They are extremely dense stars composed almost entirely of neutrons and having a diameter of only 20 km (12 miles) or less.
- ❖ They emit concentrated streams of radiation far across the space.



Study on Veterinary Antimicrobial use



- ❖ The study's paper was published in the journal PLoS Global Public Health.

- ❖ Scientists developed antimicrobial drugs to fight infections in people and animals.
- ❖ But by 2019, “73% of all antimicrobials sold on Earth [were] used in animals raised for food.
- ❖ India’s antimicrobial usage (AMU) intensity was estimated to be 43% higher than the global average in 2020 itself.
- ❖ It is expected to be 40% more than the average in 2030.
- ❖ Within the country, the researchers identified ‘hotspots’ in east and south India.
- ❖ Many farm-owners here use second-generation antibiotics called ciprofloxacin and enrofloxacin to shorten harvest time by a week.
- ❖ In 2017, India’s Ministry of Health and Family Welfare floated a ‘National Action Plan’ to contain antimicrobial resistance.
- ❖ Two years later, the government banned the use of colistin in all food-producing animals.

ENVIRONMENT

Asian Waterbird census 2023

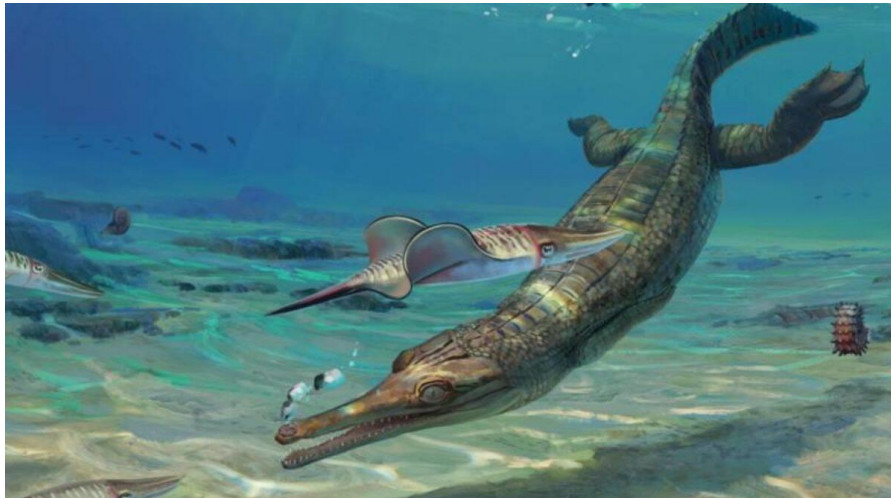


- ❖ The International Waterbird Census is a monitoring programme operating in 143 countries to collect information on the numbers of waterbirds at wetland sites.
- ❖ India is also a part of this monitoring programme under the Asian water bird census, held mid-winter every year.
- ❖ It is a citizen-science program supporting conservation and management of wetlands and waterbirds worldwide.
- ❖ The observations were recorded on the eBird app.
- ❖ It shows the populations of some migratory waterbirds, especially duck species visiting the Alappuzha region of Kerala, are falling.

- ❖ The duck species like Northern Shoveler, Common teal and Eurasian wigeon, sighted in the previous surveys, were totally missing this time around.

Ancient 'marine crocodile' fossil

- ❖ Palaeontologists have uncovered a new Thalattosuchian, an ancient “cousin” of modern-day crocodile.
- ❖ It dates back to the early Jurassic, Pliensbachian period, which was about 185 million years ago.
- ❖ It could be the oldest of its kind ever discovered.
- ❖ Thalattosuchians are referred to colloquially as ‘marine crocodiles’ or ‘sea crocodiles.’
- ❖ But they are not the members of Crocodylia.



REPORTS AND INDICES

MBA Ranking 2023

- ❖ The Indian Institutional Ranking Framework (IIRF) has released the top business and management schools of 2023 in India.
- ❖ IIM) Ahmedabad, IIM Bengaluru and IIM Kolkata are the top 3 business schools in India.
- ❖ Top 3 Private Business Schools:
 - Xavier Labour Relations Institute, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand
 - Management Development Institute, Gurugram, Haryana
 - Symbiosis Institute of Business Management, Pune.

- ❖ Top 3 Business Schools in the world:
 - London Business School, UK
 - Wharton- University of Pennsylvania, USA
 - Harvard Business School, USA.



STATE

Ladakh's first biodiversity heritage site




- ❖ Yaya Tso Lake was declared Ladakh's first biodiversity heritage site under the Biological Diversity Act.

- ❖ Lake Yaya Tso is known as a bird's paradise for its beautiful lake located at an altitude of 4,820 metres in Ladakh.
- ❖ It is a nesting habitat for a large number of birds and animals, such as the bar-headed goose, black-necked crane and Brahminy duck
- ❖ It is also one of the highest breeding sites of the black-necked crane in India.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Pervez Musharraf

<p>Pervez Musharraf At a glance</p> <p>1943 Born in Delhi, India</p> <p>1961 Joins Pakistan Military Academy</p> <p>1999 Leads bloodless coup and becomes president two years later</p> <p>2007 Loses power</p> <p>2008 Goes into self-imposed exile - returns from 2013 to 2016</p> <p>2014 Charged with high treason</p>	
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- ❖ Former President of Pakistan, General Pervez Musharraf (79, Retd), passed away recently.
- ❖ He was the tenth president of Pakistan after a successful bloodless military coup in 1999.
- ❖ He served as the 10th Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee of Pakistan from 1998 to 2001 and the 7th top general from 1998 to 2007.
- ❖ He was known as the architect of the Kargil war, the man who ordered his soldiers to enter India to cut off Leh from Srinagar.
- ❖ It was as President that Pervez Musharraf came to India in July 2001.
- ❖ Gen. Musharraf had left for Dubai in March 2016 for medical treatment and never returned to Pakistan.



- ❖ In December 2019, a special court in Pakistani sentenced General Pervez Musharraf in absentia to death for suspending Pakistan's constitution in 2007.
- ❖ Mr Musharraf challenged the order and in January 2020.
- ❖ The Lahore High Court annulled the death sentence and held the earlier trial to be unconstitutional.

