

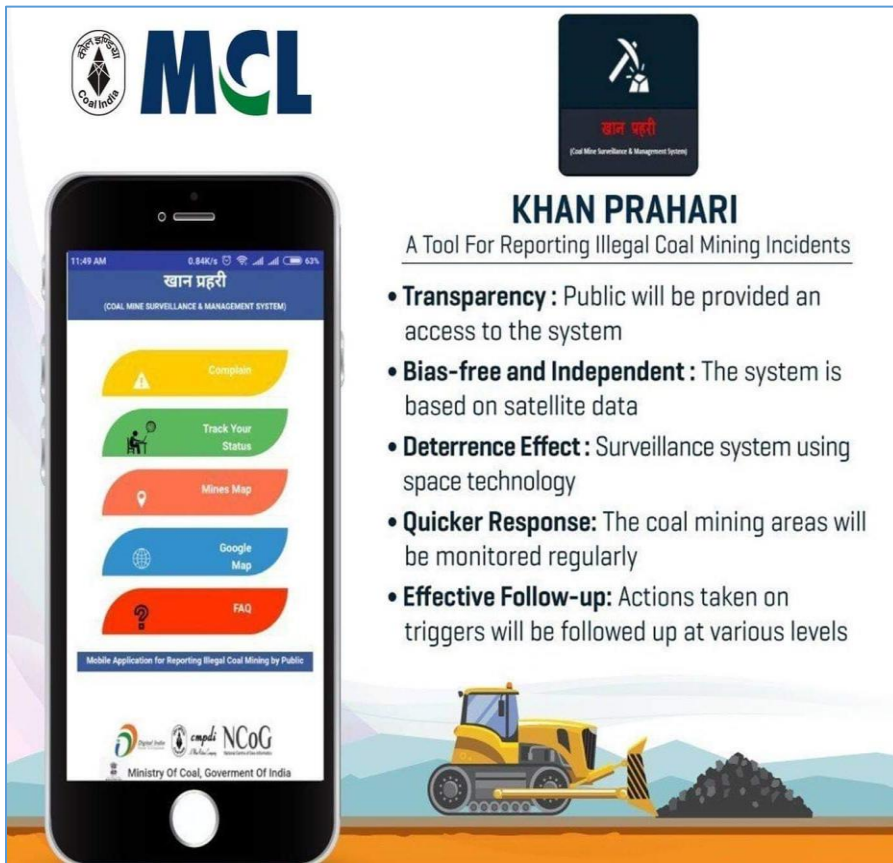
February - 16

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Titas Sadhu, a member of the U-19 Women's T20 World Cup, won the 'Emerging Hero' award at the Sportstar East Sports Conclave 2023 in Kolkata.

NATIONAL

Khanan Prahari Application



MCL

खान प्रहरी
(Coal Mine Surveillance & Management System)

KHAN PRAHARI
A Tool For Reporting Illegal Coal Mining Incidents

- **Transparency** : Public will be provided an access to the system
- **Bias-free and Independent** : The system is based on satellite data
- **Deterrence Effect** : Surveillance system using space technology
- **Quicker Response**: The coal mining areas will be monitored regularly
- **Effective Follow-up**: Actions taken on triggers will be followed up at various levels

Mobile Application for Reporting Illegal Coal Mining by Public

Ministry Of Coal, Government Of India

- ❖ The government has launched a mobile app namely 'Khanan Prahari' and a CMSMS web portal.
- ❖ CMSMS stands for Coal Mine Surveillance and Management System.
- ❖ It allows reporting unauthorized coal mining activities.
- ❖ The illegal mining of minor minerals is common in states like AP, Telangana, and TN.

- ❖ Illegal mining of major minerals like coal is common in north eastern states like Assam and Meghalaya.
- ❖ India ranks topmost in illegal sand mining.

INTERNATIONAL

Russian Arms Supplies to India

MAKE RUSSIAN IN INDIA			
Status	Weapons system	Quantity	Cost (\$bn)
Firm	Kamov 226T helicopters	200 + 111	3
	AK-203 Kalashnikov assault rifles	750,000	1
	Krivak-III frigates	4	3
	BrahMos missiles for warships	15 ships	2.6
	Igla-SVSHORADS	800	1.5
	Sukhoi-30MKI fighters	18	1.15
	Total		12.3
Up for grabs	Project 75-I submarines	6	7
	Medium fighters for IAF and navy	114 + 57	18-25
	Total		25-32

- ❖ Russian supplied India with around \$13 billion of arms during the past five years.
- ❖ India is the world's biggest buyer of Russian arms.
- ❖ It is accounting for around 20% of Moscow's current order book.

TROPEX – 23

- ❖ The 2023 edition of Indian Navy's major maritime exercise TROPEX, is currently underway in the Indian Ocean Region.

- ❖ This operational level exercise is conducted biennially and witnesses' participation by all Indian Navy units, Indian Army, Indian Air Force and Coast Guard assets.
- ❖ The exercise is being conducted over a duration of three months, from January to March.



ECONOMY

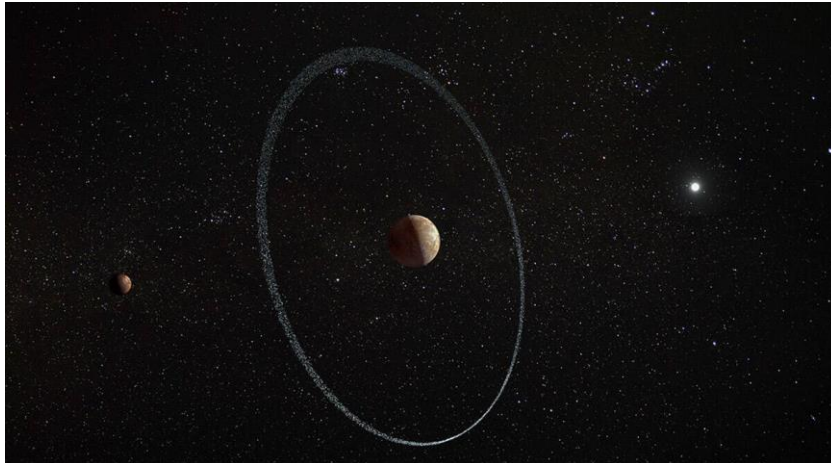
Direct Tax Collections of FY 2022-23



- ❖ Direct Tax collections up to February 10 showed that gross collections are at ₹15.67 lakh crore.
- ❖ It is 24.09 per cent higher than the gross collections for the corresponding period of last year.
- ❖ Direct Tax collection, net of refunds, stands at ₹12.98 lakh crore.
- ❖ It is 18.40 per cent higher than the net collections for the corresponding period of last year.
- ❖ This collection is 91.39 per cent of the total Budget Estimates of Direct Taxes for F.Y. 2022-23 and 78.65 per cent of the Revised Estimates of Direct Taxes for FY 2022-23.
- ❖ The budget estimates of the direct tax revenues were Rs 14.2 lakh crores.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Ring around Quaoar

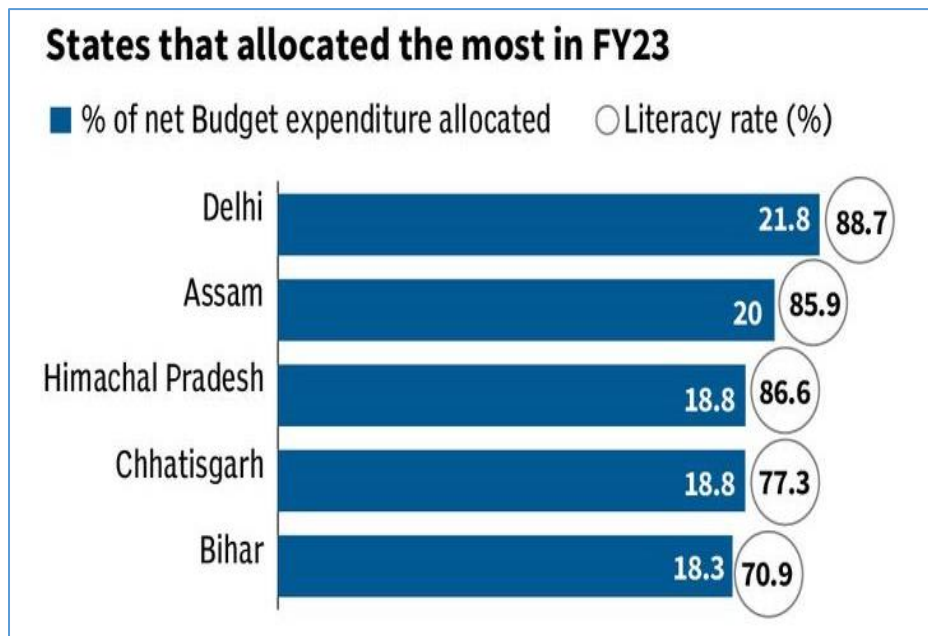


- ❖ Scientists have detected a ring encircling Quaoar dwarf planet akin to the one around the planet Saturn.
- ❖ Quaoar is little less than half the diameter of Pluto and about one-third of the diameter of Earth's moon.
- ❖ It orbits the sun in the Kuiper belt, a region of frozen debris beyond Neptune that includes Pluto.
- ❖ But the one around Quaoar defies the current understanding of where such rings can form - located much further away from it than current scientific understanding would allow.
- ❖ Discovered in 2002, Quaoar is currently defined as a minor planet and is proposed as a dwarf planet.

- ❖ In 2013, astronomers discovered a couple of rings around Chariklo, a body known as a centaur that orbits the sun between Saturn and Uranus.
- ❖ In 2017, a ring was discovered around another Kuiper belt object, Haumea, also from dimming during a stellar occultation.

REPORTS AND INDICES

States allocation towards education



- ❖ Among the big States in the country, Chhattisgarh and Bihar allocated the most proportion of their budget towards education in FY23.
- ❖ Chhattisgarh allocated 18.82 per cent of the State's estimated net budget expenditure to education, Bihar allocated 18.3 per cent.
- ❖ The literacy rate in Chhattisgarh is 77.9 per cent, while the rate for Bihar is 70.9 per cent, one of the lowest in the country.
- ❖ The States that have spent a higher portion of their budget expenditure on education are Delhi, Assam, and Himachal Pradesh.
- ❖ They allocated 22 per cent, 20 per cent and 19 per cent, respectively.
- ❖ At 96.2 per cent, Kerala has the highest literacy rate in the country, while it is 82.9 per cent in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The national average of the allocation to education in the net budget expenditure in FY23 was 15.4 per cent.

- ❖ The other States that have allocated a comparatively smaller proportion of their net expenditure to education include Andhra Pradesh (12.7 %), Karnataka (12.73 %), Uttar Pradesh (12.89 %), and Punjab (13.05 %).
- ❖ The overall observation says that Tamilnadu is planning on increasing its literacy rates further though it is already higher.
- ❖ The Central Government allocated Rs 44,094 crores on education, that is, 16.51% of the total budget.
- ❖ This is 8% higher than the previous year.

SPORTS

India Open Badminton Championship 2023



- ❖ In India Open Badminton Championship, Korean An Seyoung wins Women's singles in New Delhi.
- ❖ She defeated the World No. 1 Japanese Akane Yamaguchi in the final.
- ❖ Axelsen has earlier won the India Open in 2017 and 2019.
- ❖ Kunlavut Vitidsarn won India Open 2023 Male Singles title in badminton championship.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of Women and Girls in Science - February 11

- ❖ It aims to promote the full and equal access and participation of women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields.
- ❖ It will be the eighth International Day of Women and Girls in Science.

- ❖ The theme for 2023 is “Innovate. Demonstrate. Elevate. Advance (IDEA): Bringing communities Forward for sustainable and equitable development.”



International Darwin Day - February 12

Charles Darwin, English naturalist, died on April 19, 1882

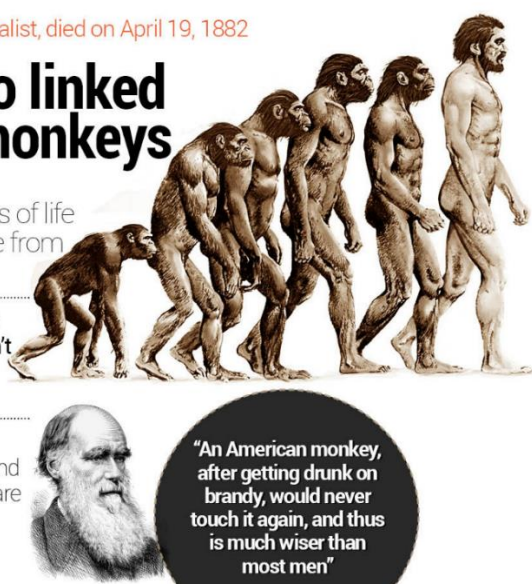
The man who linked humans to monkeys

Established that all species of life have descended over time from common ancestors

Attended Edinburgh University to become a doctor but couldn't stand the sight of blood & dropped the idea

1,250 copies of Darwin's book *Origin of Species* were printed and sold for 15 shillings each. They are now valued at around \$23,000

"An American monkey, after getting drunk on brandy, would never touch it again, and thus is much wiser than most men"



- ❖ Charles Darwin was an English naturalist.
- ❖ His scientific theory of evolution by natural selection formed the foundation of modern evolutionary studies.
- ❖ Every year on 12 February Darwin Day is observed to commemorate the birthday of Charles Darwin.
- ❖ The day focuses on the contribution of Charles Darwin to science and also to promote science in general.

- ❖ On 24 November 1859, he published his theory on the Species by Means of Natural Selection.

National Productivity Day - February 12

- ❖ India celebrates National Productivity Day every year on February 12 to mark the foundation day of the National Productivity Council (NPC).
- ❖ The NPC's mission is to promote awareness towards increasing the productivity of the country.
- ❖ The day is celebrated as part of National Productivity Week, which is observed from February 12 to 18.
- ❖ The theme for National Productivity Day for this year is "A chance to set goals".
- ❖ The NPC is an autonomous organisation which was established in 1958 under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

