



February - 20

TNPSC BITS

- The 23rd edition of the India International Seafood Show (IISS-2023) held in Kolkata.
- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs recently conducted a two-day Smart city CEO conference at Panaji, Goa.
- Union Tourism Ministry will organise 1st Global Tourism Investors' Summit in New Delhi to showcase opportunities in the Tourism and hospitality sector.
- The Election Commission of India hosted the 2nd International Conference on the theme 'Use of Technology and Elections Integrity' in New Delhi.

NATIONAL

Digital Suraksha campaign

- Meta has announced its partnership with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology commonly known as MeitY for the G20 Stay Safe Online Campaign.
- ✤ In association with the ministry, Meta has launched the #DigitalSuraksha campaign.
- Meta will create and share resources in multiple Indian languages about how to stay safe online through this Campaign.
- ✤ It aims to raise awareness about how to be safe in the digital world.



Kavach 2023

The ministries of home affairs and education, along with the All-India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), launched Kavach 2023.





- ✤ It is a national level hackathon on cybersecurity.
- Kavach is being launched to identify innovative concepts and technology solutions for addressing cybersecurity challenges faced by Indian intelligence agencies.



2nd Global Hackathon "HARBINGER 2023"



- The Reserve Bank announced its second global hackathon 'HARBINGER 2023
 Innovation for Transformation'.
- ✤ Theme of this is 'Inclusive Digital Services'.



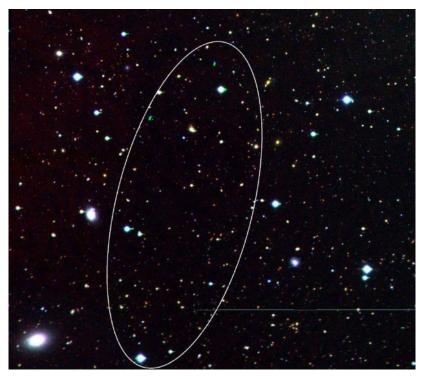


The first hackathon was announced in November 2021 and results were declared in June 2022.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Invisible Galaxy

- Italian researchers have discovered a Black Galaxy or Invisible Galaxy using ALMA.
- The young, star-forming galaxy is filled with dust and gas, and formed 2 billion years after the Big Bang.
- The galaxy is termed invisible because the light emitted couldn't be seen from the earth.
- However, the presence of the galaxy has been discovered using the gravitational lensing technique.
- ✤ ALMA Stands for Atacama Large Millimetre Array.



Sniffing robots

Scientists from Israel have developed a sniffing robot which is equipped with a biological sensor.





- The robot uses the antennae of a locust to diagnose disease and improve security checks.
- ✤ Locusts smell with their antennae.
- The bot can detect even the tiniest particle or an organism in its surrounding.
- This sniffer can be used to detect drugs and explosives.



First hydrogen-powered heavy-duty truck



- India's first Hydrogen Internal Combustion Engine (H2-ICE) powered Heavy Duty truck was unveiled recently.
- The Ashok Leyland's new H2-ICE heavy-duty truck range is powered by Hydrogen fuel and is based on its conventional diesel-based combustion engine.
- ✤ It was developed by Reliance in partnership with Ashok Leyland.
- This would help quicker migration to cleaner energy sources at a relatively lower cost delta.





- ◆ The H2-ICE produces nitrogen oxides only if atmospheric hydrogen is used.
- India includes nitrogen oxides in its pollutant list.
- ✤ There are no sulphur oxides, carbon monoxide, particulate matter, or Hydro carbons emissions in H2-ICE.

REPORTS AND INDICES

Services Trade Restrictiveness Index (STRI)

- India stood at 47th position in Services Trade Restrictiveness Index (STRI) for the year 2022.
- This survey was conducted by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).
- Due to Russia-Ukraine war, Russia slipped to 48th position in the index.
- The STRI indices takes into consideration the government policies in several sectors that define the ease of trading in those sectors and industries.
- ♦ As per the index, zero shows least restriction and one show no restriction.
- The database also records details based on a Most Favoured Nation basis.



STATES

International Craft Summit

- Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik inaugurated an 'International Craft Summit' in Jajpur.
- This is the first-of-its-kind craft summit featuring a confluence of pioneering craftspeople, culture, and art enthusiasts.





Four UN agencies and five UNESCO Creative Cities have partnered with the district to realize this ambitious and forward-looking event on behalf of the State Government.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar







- The award is presented by Sangeet Natak Akademi to artists in the field of dance, music, and drama.
- ✤ 19 artists from North East India won the award.
- \clubsuit The awards were presented for the years 2019, 2020, and 2021.
- ✤ It is presented annually to artists below the age of 40.
- Every year, more than 33 artists are presented with the award.
- The Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar is being presented since 2006.
- ✤ The awards were presented by the Union Minister of Culture and Tourism.

President's Colour award - Haryana



- The union home minister presented the award on behalf of the President.
- President's Colour award was given to the Haryana Police in recognition of its exceptional service.
- The President's Colour is a special flag given to a military, paramilitary or police unit as a mark of recognition for its services to the nation.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Childhood Cancer Day - February 15

- The Childhood Cancer International, a federation of numerous parent-founded child cancer support groups, was established that day.
- ✤ In 1994, Childhood Cancer International was founded.





- The goal of the day is to bring attention to and express support for young people with cancer.
- The International Childhood Cancer Day campaign will run for three years (2021-2023).
- ✤ "Better Survival" is the slogan for the three-year initiative.



Financial Literacy Week - February 13/17



- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has been conducting this event every year since 2016.
- It aims to propagate financial education messages on a particular theme among members of public across the country.





- Financial literacy is the ability to understand and effectively use various financial skills.
- ✤ The theme for this year is "Good Financial Behaviour, Your Saviour".

MISCELLANEOUS

Astronaut training module



- IIT Madras plans to develop a training module for the Indian Spaceflight Program.
- This training module will be created on the basis of Augmented Reality (AR)/ Virtual Reality (VR) / Mixed Reality (MR).
- ✤ ISRO and IIT Madras inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to work together on this Program.

