

January - 13

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ CJI DY Chandrachud to be conferred with 2022 CLP Award for Global Leadership by Harvard Law School.

TAMIL NADU

Global Tamil Angels platform

- ❖ The Chief Minister of Tamilnadu launched the Global Tamil Angels platform (www.tamilangels.fund) of Start-upTN.
- ❖ It will enable investors from the Global Tamil Diaspora to make investments in Tamil Nadu-based start-ups.
- ❖ This platform was launched at the “Global Startup Investors Summit”.



NATIONAL

G-20 Meeting on Education

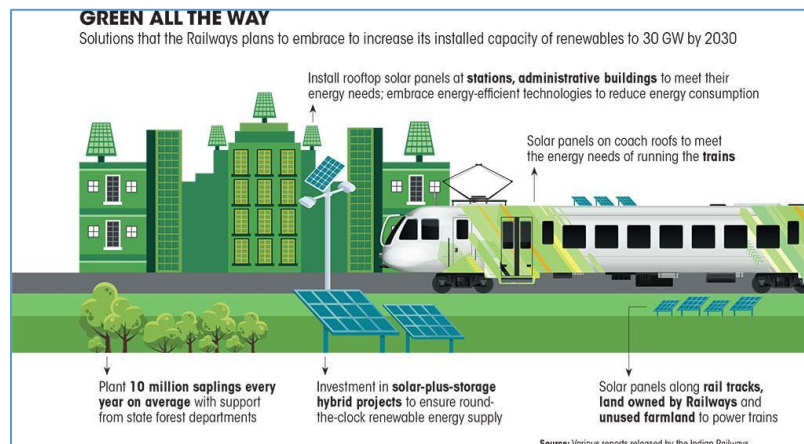
- ❖ India assumes the G20 presidency and prepares to host the G20 Leaders' Summit for the first time in 2023.
- ❖ The education ministry has launched a unique outreach campaign called the University Connect.
- ❖ It aims to involve young people in India's G20 presidency.
- ❖ Various activities and events in different parts of the country as part of India's G20 presidency.

- ❖ Four education working group meetings are scheduled to take place in Chennai, Amritsar, Bhubaneswar, and Pune.



Railways' Energy efficiency plan

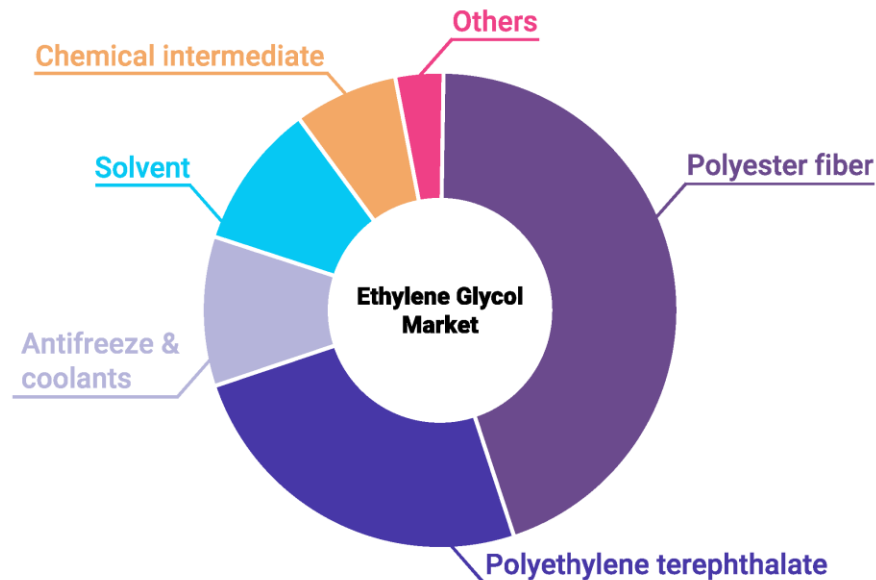
- ❖ The Indian Railway Ministry has outlined a five-pronged plan to become carbon-neutral by 2030.
- ❖ The plan aims to reduce energy consumption through efficient operations and increase the use of renewable energy.
- ❖ One key component of the plan is the installation of rooftop solar panels on all railway establishment.



Ethylene Glycol (Quality Control) Order, 2022

- ❖ The Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals with the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers issued a gazette notification titled Ethylene Glycol (Quality Control) Order, 2022.

- ❖ This comes a day after Uzbekistan alleged 18 child deaths in Samarkand from consumption of a medicinal syrup manufactured by an Indian drugmaker.
- ❖ Marion Biotech, the drug company in question, is based in Noida, Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ The syrup it manufactured contained ethylene glycol.
- ❖ Ethylene glycol is a colourless and odourless alcoholic compound that can be fatal if consumed.
- ❖ It is mostly used as an automotive antifreeze and as a raw material for manufacturing polyester fibres.
- ❖ Diethylene glycol and ethylene glycol are adulterants that are sometimes illegally used as solvents in liquid drugs.
- ❖ Diethylene glycol and ethylene glycol may be used by pharma companies as an alternative to non-toxic solvents such as glycerine or propylene glycol to cut costs.

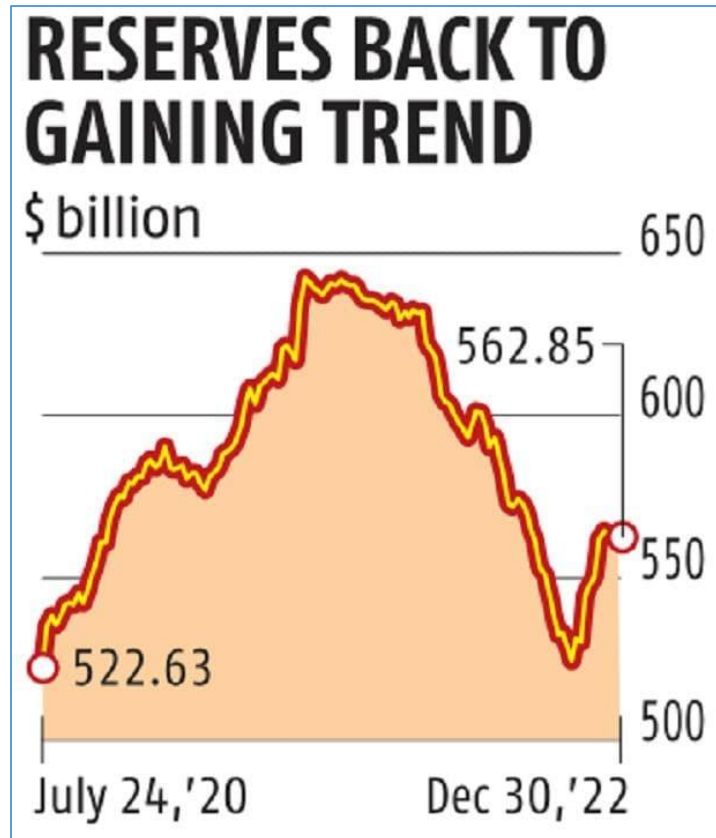


ECONOMY

Forex Reserves

- ❖ India's foreign exchange reserves fell by \$70.1 billion in 2022.
- ❖ The forex reserves stood at \$562.9 billion in the week ended December 30.
- ❖ The rupee depreciated 10.2% against the US dollar in calendar year 2022.
- ❖ In 2022, foreign investors pulled out Rs 1.2 lakh crore from the domestic equity market.

- ❖ FIIs sell their equity investment in the rupee, convert it into the dollar and take the money out.
- ❖ The reserves reached an all-time high of \$642.5 billion in September 2021



Domestic Systemically Important Banks



- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued its list of Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs) for 2023.
- ❖ SBI, ICICI Bank, and HDFC Bank are still categorized as Domestic Systemically Important Banks.
- ❖ SBI and ICICI Bank were designated as D-SIBs by the Reserve Bank in 2015 and 2016.

Utkarsh 2.0



- ❖ RBI has launched Utkarsh 2.0, the second phase of its medium-term strategy for strengthening regulatory and supervisory mechanisms.
- ❖ It will guide the RBI over the period from 2023 to 2025.
- ❖ It includes six vision statements that are designed to improve the performance of the RBI's statutory and other functions.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Merger of galaxies

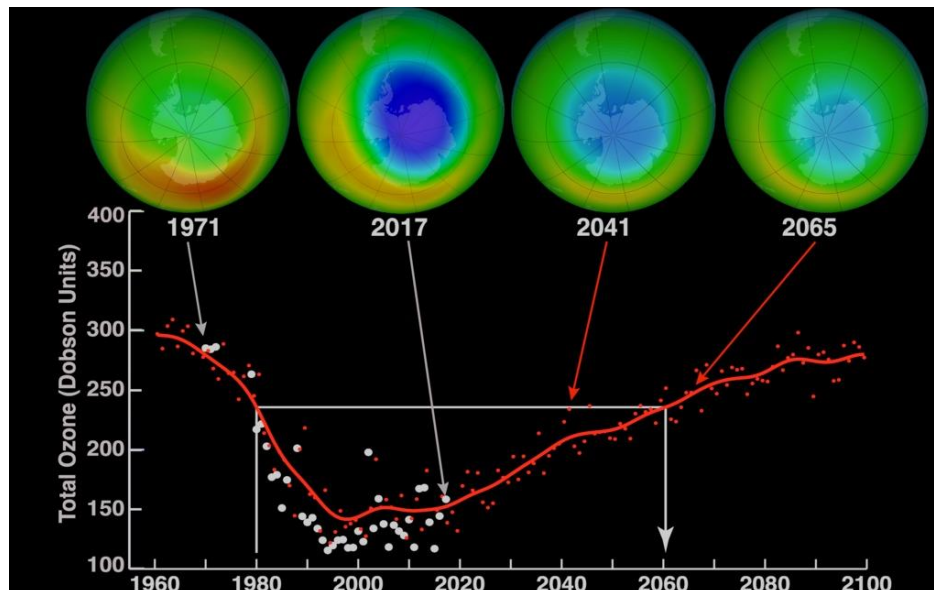
- ❖ Astronomers observed two merging galaxies about 500 million light-years from Earth.

- ❖ The two black holes were growing in cycle near the centre of the merging galaxy resulting from the merger.
- ❖ They met when their host galaxies, known as UGC 4211, collided.
- ❖ One is 200 million times the mass of our sun, while the other is 125 million times the mass of our sun.
- ❖ The black holes are located the closest together scientists have ever seen, only about 750 light-years apart.



ENVIRONMENT

Earth's Ozone Layer Recovery

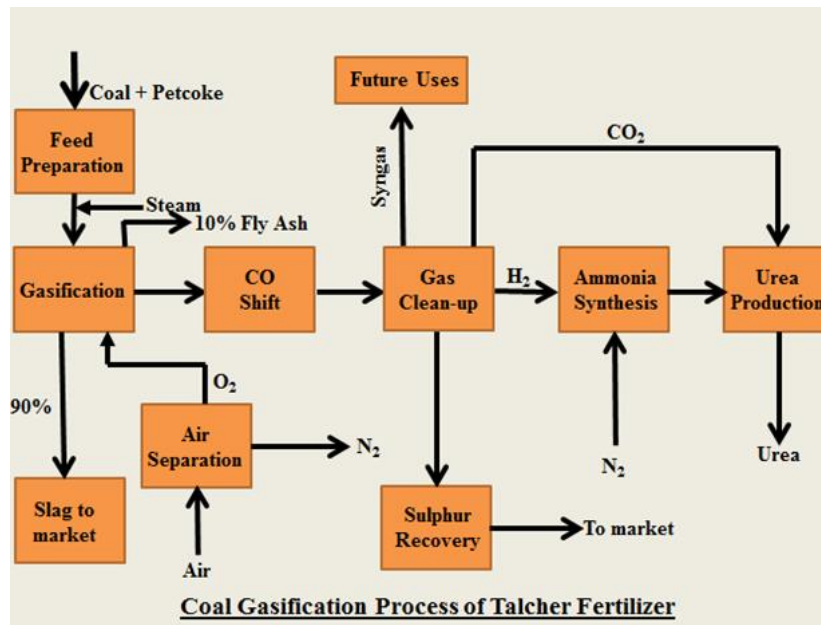


- ❖ The Montreal Protocol report confirmed the phase-out of nearly 99 per cent of banned ozone-depleting substances.

- ❖ According to the report, if current policies remain in place, the Ozone layer is expected to recover to 1980 values by 2040.
- ❖ The discovery of a hole in the Ozone Layer was first announced by scientists in May 1985.
- ❖ Over the Antarctic, this recovery is expected by around 2066, and by 2045 over the Arctic.
- ❖ Nevertheless, the Antarctic ozone breach has been slowly improving in area and depth, since the year 2000.

STATES

Talcher Fertilizers Project



- ❖ Country's first-ever coal gasification based Talcher Fertiliser plant in Odisha will open in 2024.
- ❖ This plant at Talcher will use Coal Gasification Technology to produce urea.
- ❖ The plant will help to reduce dependency on urea import.

Swadesh Darshan 2.0 Scheme

- ❖ Karnataka's two erstwhile royal cities will soon be developed under the centre's Swadesh Darshan 2.0 scheme.
- ❖ Mysuru and Hampi are among the 19 destinations that have been chosen for development under the scheme.



- ❖ 19 places identified across eight states and UTs for this scheme.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Father of laparoscopic surgery in India



- ❖ The father of laparoscopic surgery in India, Dr Tehemton E Udwadia passed away.
- ❖ He is credited with introducing laparoscopic surgery to India in the early 1980s.
- ❖ In 2002, he was awarded the Padma Shri, for his contributions to the field of medicine.
- ❖ He was awarded the Padma Bhushan, the country's third highest civilian award, in 2017.

7th Digital India awards 2022



- ❖ The President of India, presented the seventh edition of the Digital India Awards 2022.
- ❖ The 7th edition of Digital India Awards was presented under the following seven categories.
 - Digital Empowerment of Citizens
 - Digital Initiatives at Grassroots Level
 - Digital Initiatives for Ease of Doing Business
 - Data Sharing and Use for Socio Economic Development
 - Public Digital Platforms - Central Ministries, Departments and States
 - Digital Initiatives in Collaboration with Startups
 - Best Web & Mobile Initiatives Complying with GIGW & Accessibility Guidelines.

SPORTS

Sania Mirza retirement

- ❖ Sania Mirza, India's first women's tennis superstar, announced her retirement.



- ❖ The WTA 1000 Dubai Tennis Championships will be the last participation.
- ❖ Mirza is the first Indian to break into the top 30 in the WTA singles ranking.
- ❖ She having won six Grand Slam titles, including three mixed doubles trophies.

