



July - 01

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ IRS officer Nitin Gupta has been appointed as the new Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) chairman.
- ❖ India International Centre's President is now former foreign secretary and Prime Minister's Special Envoy for Nuclear Affairs and Climate Change Shyam Saran.
- ❖ Nasscom, an Indian non-governmental trade association and advocacy group, claims that an integrated AI and data use plan could boost India's GDP by \$500 billion by 2025.
 - The Nasscom, in collaboration with EY and with backing from Microsoft, EXL, and Capgemini, has introduced an AI Adoption Index to track sectoral progress on AI adoption in the nation.
- ❖ The Iraqi official Mohammed Jalood was elected president of the International Weightlifting Federation (IWF).
 - He is the first permanent president since Tamás Aján stepped down in 2020 after controlling the IWF for 44 years.
- ❖ India's Gurunaidu Sanapathi from Andhra Pradesh won Gold at International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) Youth Weightlifting Championships held in Mexico.
 - He has become India's first weightlifter to win gold in this tournament.
- ❖ The four-day-long Ambubachi Mela has kickstarted at the famous Kamakhya temple atop the Nilachal Hills in Assam's Guwahati.
- ❖ South Korea sent its first satellite into orbit using a domestic Nuri rocket.
- ❖ The Prime Minister recently inaugurated the Pragati Maidan Integrated Transit Corridor project.
 - The project aims to provide hassle-free and smooth access to the exhibition and convention centre being developed at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

NATIONAL

Miss India Worldwide 2022

- ❖ Khushi Patel, has been declared the winner of the Miss India Worldwide 2022.
- ❖ It is the longest-running Indian pageant outside of India
- ❖ She is a biomedical student from the United Kingdom.
- ❖ Roshani Razack from Guyana was declared Miss Teen India Worldwide 2022.

- ❖ This year's pageant was held after a gap of three years with the last one being organised at the Leela Hotel in Mumbai in September 2019.

NRI Khushi Patel from UK wins Miss India Worldwide 2022



National Logistics Excellence Awards

- ❖ The First National Logistics Excellence Awards was hosted by Government of India in New Delhi.
- ❖ Union minister Piyush Goyal and minister of state for commerce and industry Som Parkash presented awards in 12 categories.
- ❖ It was instituted to provide due recognition to various players involved in logistics supply chain in India.

National Logistics Excellence Awards 2021 - List of Winners

- Best Cargo Airline & Terminal Operator – FedEx Express Transportation and Supply Chain Services (India) Pvt. Ltd.
- Best Road Freight Service Provider – DHL Supply Chain India Pvt. Ltd.
- Best Rail Freight Service Provider – Adani Logistics Ltd.
- Best Shipping & NVOCC service Provider – Maersk India Pvt. Ltd.
- Best Port Service Provider – DP World
- Best Warehouse service provider – Transport Corporation of India Ltd. (Through TCI Supply Chain Solutions)
- Best Cold Chain/Refrigerated service provider - Transport Corporation of India Ltd. (Through TCI Supply Chain Solutions)
- Best Express Logistics Service Provider – Safe express Pvt. Ltd.
- Best Logistics infrastructure and service provider – Adani Logistics Ltd.
- Best Freight Forwarders – Kuehne + Nagel Pvt. Ltd.
- Best Customs House Agent/Customs broker – International Clearing & Shipping Agency (India) Pvt. Ltd.
- Industry Excellence Award – Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd.

One Nation, One Dialysis

- ❖ It will be launched by the Government under Pradhan Mantri National Dialysis Programme under the National Health Mission.

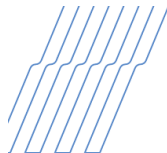


- ❖ Under this Scheme, any patient in India can get a dialysis facility from anywhere in the country.
- ❖ With approximately 4,950 dialysis centres, largely in the private sector in India, the demand is less than half met with the existing infrastructure.

INTERNATIONAL

New Commonwealth Members

- ❖ The West African states Gabon and Togo joined as the members of the Commonwealth of Nations.
- ❖ They are the latest nations with no historic ties to Britain to enter the English-speaking club headed by Queen Elizabeth II.
- ❖ They were never having been under the British rule.
- ❖ They are inducted in the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting 2022 held in Kigali, Rwanda.
- ❖ Now the total members of this organisation are 56 members.
- ❖ These French-speaking West African states are the first new members to join the Commonwealth since Rwanda in 2009.
- ❖ Mozambique, a former Portuguese colony, became the first Commonwealth member without historic links to Britain when it joined in 1995.



GABON AND TOGO JOIN THE COMMONWEALTH

Gabon and Togo have joined the Commonwealth as its 55th and 56th members, respectively. Both nations were once French colonies.

At the conclusion of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Kigali, Rwanda, leaders approved bids from the two West African nations.



UN Oceans Conference 2022

- ❖ The UN Ocean Conference 2022 kicked off in Lisbon, Portugal.
- ❖ It is being co-hosted by Portugal and Kenya.
- ❖ The Minister of State Jitendra Singh attends this conference.

- ❖ It is aligned to SDG 14 'life below water'.
- ❖ India will address on the topic of Scaling up Ocean Action based on Science and Innovation for the implementation of Goal 14: Stock taking, Partnerships and Solutions.
- ❖ India is on track for advancing the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, 2021–2030.
- ❖ At the conclusion of the Conference, the leaders will also reiterate the statement titled Our ocean, our future: call for action.
- ❖ The popular actor and ocean activist Jason Momoa of USA has been named UN Environment Programme's (UNEP) Advocate for Life Below Water.

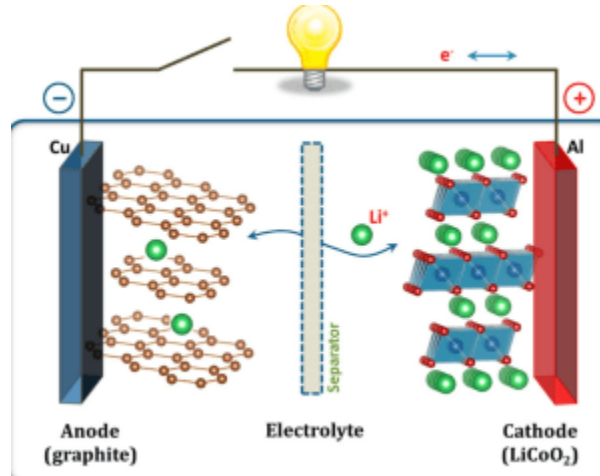


SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Energy Storage Platform

- ❖ The Scientists at Indian Institute of Science have found nanoscopic refractory metal layers like Tungsten.
- ❖ It could improve the performance of these batteries which are crucial for purposes like electrical mobility.
- ❖ This will enable fast charge-discharge rates in solid-state lithium metal batteries.
- ❖ Conventional Li-ion batteries employ a graphite anode, a liquid electrolyte, and a transition metal cathode.
- ❖ However, the liquid electrolytes are flammable and degrade at high temperatures leading to poor battery life.

- ❖ And in extreme cases they lead to battery fires.
- ❖ Replacing the liquid electrolyte with a ceramic solid electrolyte could enable safer Li-ion batteries that also last longer on a single charge.



Firefly-like light emitting robots



- ❖ Researchers from Madras Institute of Technology (MIT) have created robots, capable of emitting light while flying, motion tracking and communications.
- ❖ These robots weigh barely more than a paper clip.



- ❖ And they can be tracked using the light they emit and three smartphone cameras.
- ❖ Fireflies use their luminescence for communication to attract a mate, ward off predators, or lure prey.

ENVIRONMENT

New Biosphere Reserves

Sunshine Coast Biosphere Reserve (Australia)
Doumba-Rey Biosphere Reserve (Cameroon)
Sena Oura Biosphere Reserve (Chad)
Dedoplistskaro Biosphere Reserve (Georgia)
Three Alazani Rivers Biosphere Reserve (Georgia)
Burabay Biosphere Reserve (Kazakhstan)
Markakol Biosphere Reserve (Kazakhstan)
Khuvsgul Lake Biosphere Reserve (Mongolia)
Harrat Uwayrid Biosphere Reserve (Saudi Arabia)
Kafue Flats Biosphere Reserve (Zambia)
Chimanimani Biosphere reserve (Zimbabwe)

- ❖ UNESCO has approved the designation of 11 new biosphere reserves in 9 countries.
- ❖ It includes three countries for the first time: Chad, Georgia and Zambia.
- ❖ Two existing biosphere reserves in Spain have also been extended.
- ❖ With the new designations, the World Network of Biosphere Reserves totals 738 sites in 134 countries.
- ❖ These additions were decided by the 34th session of the International Co-ordinating Council.
- ❖ It is the governing body of UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere (MAB) programme.
- ❖ It is composed of 34 representatives of UNESCO Member States.

- ❖ The Council was meeting from 13 to 17 June at UNESCO's Headquarters in Paris.
- ❖ The Man and the Biosphere (MAB) programme pioneered the idea of sustainable development.
- ❖ It was established by UNESCO in 1971 as an intergovernmental scientific programme.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Vijay Amritraj



- ❖ Indian tennis great, Vijay Amritraj has been named the 2021 recipient of the Golden Achievement Award in London.
- ❖ It is given by the International Tennis Hall of Fame and International Tennis Federation.
- ❖ He is first recipient from India to receive this award.
- ❖ He joins including Brian Tobin of Australia, Eiichi Kawatei of Japan, and Peachy Kellmeyer of the United States.

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