



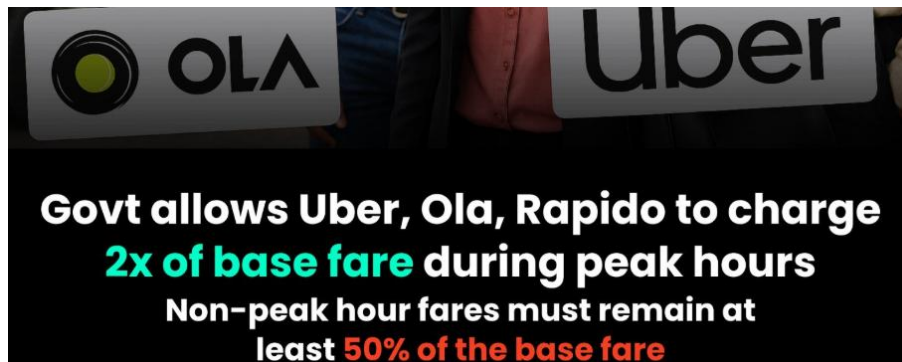
July - 09

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Organisation for the Prohibition of the Chemical Weapons (OPCW), in a very collaboration with India's National Authority for Chemical Weapons Convention (NACWC), convened the 23rd Regional Meeting of National Authorities of States Parties in Asia at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi.
- ❖ Indian chess player D. Gukesh won the rapid title at the 2025 Grand Chess Tour in Zagreb, Croatia.
- ❖ Mashreq, a UAE-based lender, will become the first UAE bank to set up an International Financial Services Centre Banking Unit in the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City.
- ❖ Sub Lieutenant Aastha Poonia made history as the first woman inducted into the fighter stream of the Indian Navy's naval aviation.
- ❖ India has set up its first Equine Disease-Free Compartment (EDFC) at Meerut's Remount Veterinary Corps, Uttar Pradesh.
 - The facility is officially recognized by the World Organisation for the Animal Health (WOAH) to boost Indian sport horses' global participation.
- ❖ Odisha's Puri city prepares for Bahuda Yatra, the very return journey of Lord Jagannath and his siblings.
 - Bahuda Yatra marks the sacred journey back to the Shree Jagannath Temple from Gundicha Temple.

NATIONAL NEWS

Motor Vehicle Rules 2025



- ❖ The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways issued Motor Vehicle Rules 2025.

- ❖ The New guidelines govern Motor Vehicle Aggregators (MVA) like Uber, Ola, and Rapido.
- ❖ The rules come under Section 36 of the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019.
- ❖ This law allows the Centre to guide states on licensing aggregators.
- ❖ The guidelines cover fare rates, licensing, and mobile app design.
- ❖ They also allow private bikes as bike taxis.
- ❖ This was earlier banned in states like Karnataka.

First National Workshop on School Assessment

- ❖ The Ministry of Education and PARAKH (National Assessment Centre) held a national workshop in New Delhi.
- ❖ PARAKH has been set up under the NCERT (the National Council of Educational Research and Training).
- ❖ It aims to bring all States and UTs (Union Territory) school boards to a common assessment platform.



INC-WMC Mining Summit



- ❖ The Indian National Committee of the World Mining Congress (INC-WMC) held a conference in Hyderabad on responsible mining.

- ❖ The theme was ‘Sustainable and Responsible Mining through Best Mine Closure Practices.’
- ❖ Important releases included the Mission Green Booklet, Copper and Aluminium Vision Documents 2025, and the RECLAIM Framework.
- ❖ New tools like the Single Window Clearance System for exploration were launched to help the mining industry.

SAKSHAM-3000

- ❖ SAKSHAM-3000 is designed to power large-scale computing clusters and digital networks.
- ❖ It supports 32 ports of 400G with the Ethernet speed options ranging from 1G to 400G.
- ❖ It is built for data centres, 5G and 6G networks, and AI (the Artificial Intelligence) workloads.
- ❖ The device runs on CROS (C-DOT Router Operating System), offering modular and flexible control.
- ❖ It is developed by C-DOT (Centre for Development of Telematics).



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Quad's Critical Minerals Plan

- ❖ The Quad group started a plan to keep the critical minerals supply steady.
- ❖ The plan was announced after a meeting of the Foreign Ministers in Washington, D.C.
- ❖ It also includes dealing with electronic waste and recycling critical minerals.

- ❖ The Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) is an informal strategic forum between India, the USA, Japan, and Australia.
- ❖ It is aimed at ensuring a free, open, and prosperous Indo-Pacific region.



Grand Nile Dam 2025

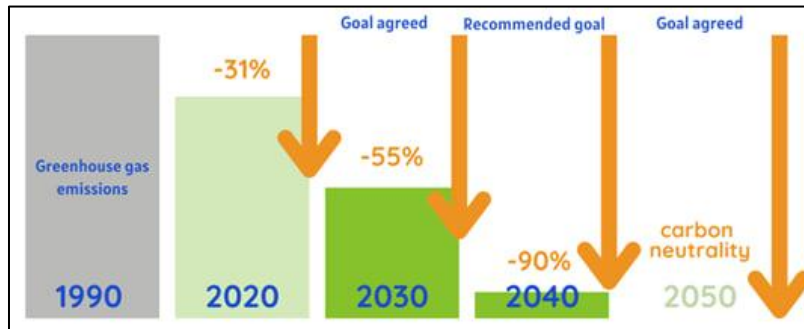


- ❖ Ethiopia finishes building of Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) on the Blue Nile after years of work.
- ❖ The dam will produce over 6,000 megawatts of the electricity, doubling Ethiopia's power capacity.
- ❖ Ethiopia received support from upstream countries, including Uganda, for fair water use.

- ❖ Ten Nile Basin countries signed a water use deal in 2024, not accepted by Egypt or Sudan.
- ❖ The dam is near Sudan's border, about 500 kilometers from Ethiopia's capital (Addis Ababa).

EU's New 2040 Climate Goal

- ❖ The goal is to cut net greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 90% by 2040 compared to the levels in 1990.
- ❖ The 2040 target helps the EU reach climate neutrality by 2050.
- ❖ This target is part of the European Green Deal.
- ❖ The current target for 2030 is to reduce the emissions by at least 55% from 1990 levels.
- ❖ The proposal aligns with the EU Competitiveness Compass, the Clean Industrial Deal, and Affordable Energy Action Plan.




ECONOMY NEWS

Loan Prepayment Charges Removal

RELIEF FOR BORROWERS

- Regulated entities will allow foreclosure of all floating rate loans other than business to individuals
- This shall be applicable irrespective of the source of funds used for foreclosure/pre-payment, whether partial or in full
- In case of dual rates, it will depend whether the loan is on fixed or floating rate at the time of foreclosure/pre-payment
- Prepayment or foreclosure without stipulating any minimum lock-in period
- Not levy any fee retrospectively at the time of foreclosure/pre-payment of loans



- ❖ RBI has issued new rules to stop prepayment charges on business loans.
- ❖ The rules apply to floating rate loans for individuals and small businesses (MSEs).
- ❖ The changes will be effective from January 1, 2026.
- ❖ Banks and NBFCs can no longer charge fees if loans are closed early.
- ❖ Earlier, only non-business personal loans had no prepayment penalties.
- ❖ It covers banks, NBFCs, and large urban co-operative banks.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

India's First Private Satellite broadband

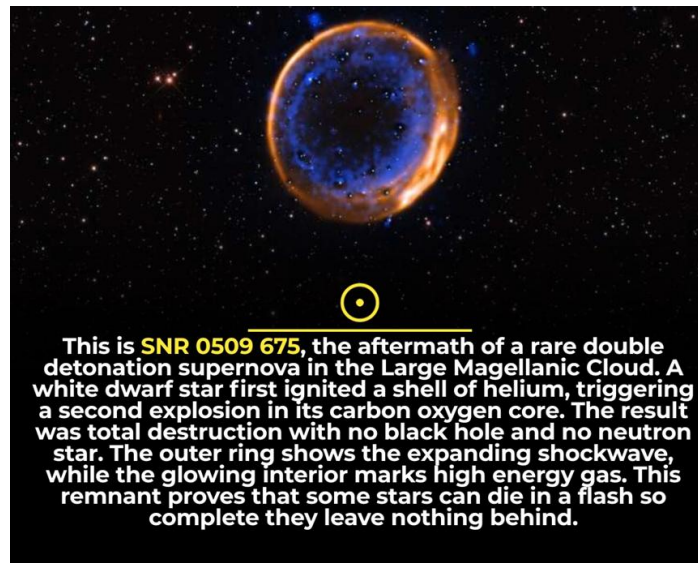
- ❖ Hyderabad-based Ananth Technologies will launch India's first private satellite broadband service.
- ❖ The service will start by 2028 with geostationary (GEO) communication satellite.
- ❖ The satellite will and provide data speeds up to 100 gigabits per second (Gbps).
- ❖ The GEO satellites orbit 35,000 km above Earth and cover large areas with one satellite.



Star Dies Twice

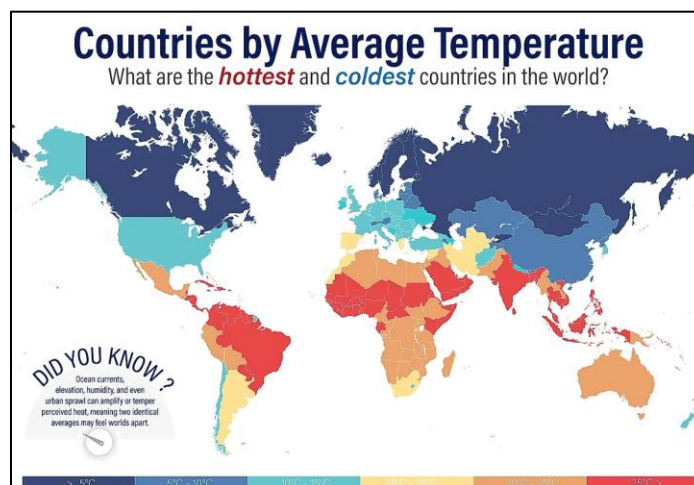
- ❖ The European Southern Observatory (ESO) finds the first visual proof of a double detonation in a white dwarf star.
- ❖ The supernova remnant SNR 0509-67.5 is located over 160,000 light-years away.
- ❖ This observation was made by using the Very Large Telescope (VLT) and Multi Unit Spectroscopic Explorer (MUSE).

- ❖ The Scientists confirm the star exploded twice, not once, making it a rare cosmic event.
- ❖ The very earlier belief was that the white dwarfs explode only after crossing the Chandrasekhar limit (1.4 times Sun's mass).
- ❖ The white dwarf stole helium from a nearby star, causing a first outer explosion.
- ❖ The first blast sent a shockwave inward, igniting the core and causing a second explosion.
- ❖ Type I-a supernova confirmed through data from Hubble Space Telescope.



ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Chile and Argentina - Extreme Cold

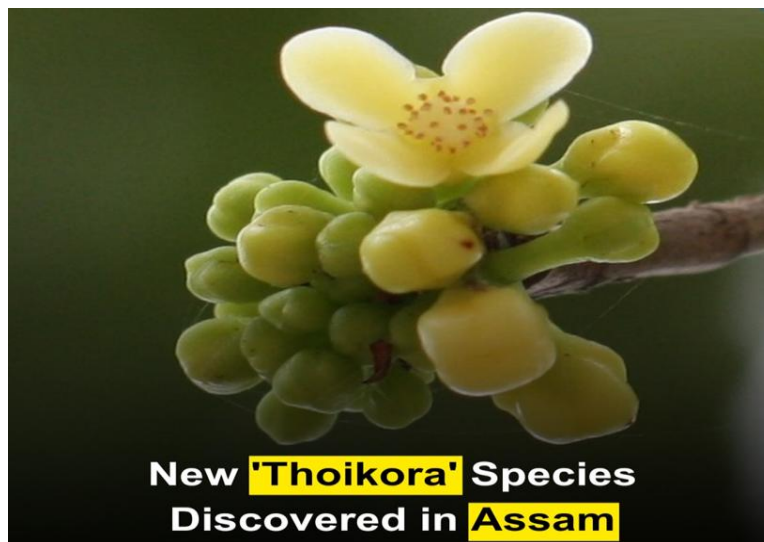


- ❖ A rare polar cold wave hits southern South America with very low temperatures.

- ❖ On 30 June, Chile and Argentina became the coldest places on Earth outside the polar regions.
- ❖ Temperatures dropped to minus 15 degrees Celsius or 5 degrees Fahrenheit in some areas.
- ❖ The cold wave was caused by a polar-origin anticyclone, a high-pressure weather system.

Garcinia Kusumae

- ❖ *Garcinia kusumae* is a newly discovered tree species in Assam of Northeast India, locally called Thoikora in Assamese language.
- ❖ It belongs to the genus *Garcinia*, a large group of tropical trees and shrubs.
- ❖ The tree is evergreen, dioecious, and can grow up to 18 meters tall.
- ❖ Its fruit is used locally to make a refreshing sherbet drink to prevent heatstroke.
- ❖ The fruit is also used in cooking and traditional medicine for diabetes and dysentery.
- ❖ Assam alone has 12 species and 3 varieties of *Garcinia*.



Rare Roll Cloud in Portugal

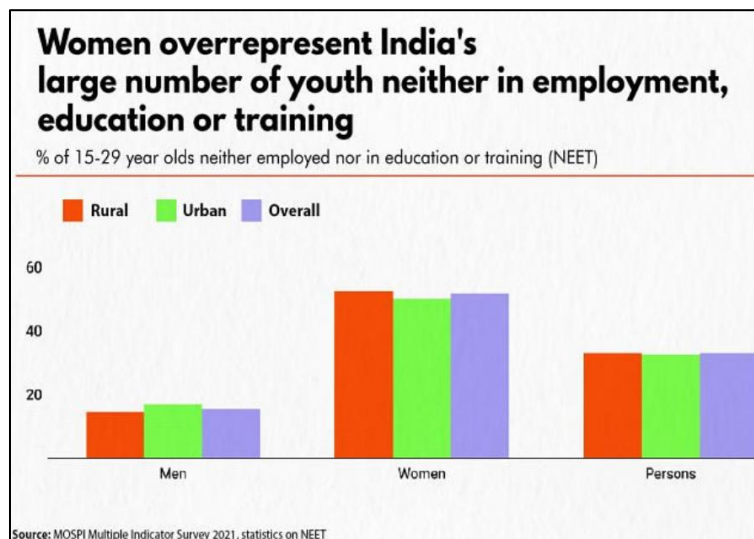
- ❖ A rare roll cloud was spotted over a beach in Portugal during a heatwave.
- ❖ This tube-shaped cloud appeared to roll horizontally like a giant wave.
- ❖ It is a low, horizontal, and relatively rare type of arcus cloud.
- ❖ Roll clouds form when cool air meets warm, moist air near the coast.

- ❖ They can be accompanied by sudden gusts, minor turbulence, or shifting weather conditions.
- ❖ The roll clouds do not indicate any natural disaster or tsunami risk.



REPORTS AND INDICES

Challenges for Youth in Agriculture



- ❖ The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has released the “Status of Youth in Agrifood Systems” report.
- ❖ Youth employment in agrifood systems has declined from 54% in 2005 to 44%, despite high reliance in low-income countries.

- ❖ Over 20% of global youth aged 15–24 is not in employment, education, or training (NEET), with women twice as affected.
- ❖ Eliminating youth NEET status could boost the global GDP by 1.4%, nearly \$1.5 trillion, with agrifood systems contributing 45%.
- ❖ The Urban youth now constitute 54%, while only 5% of rural youth participate in industrial agrifood systems, indicating future labor shortages.

STATES' NEWS

Rajasthan's Poverty-Free Village Plan

- ❖ Rajasthan has started the 'Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Garibi Mukta Gaon Yojana' to reduce poverty in villages.
- ❖ The scheme aims to help the Below Poverty Line (BPL) families move above the poverty line step by step.
- ❖ First phase covers 5,000 villages with a budget of ₹300 crore.
- ❖ The plan focuses on improving living standards and reducing social and economic gaps.



MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Hyderabad Pharma Blast 2025

- ❖ A deadly blast occurred at Sigachi Industries' Hyderabad unit, making Micro crystalline Cellulose (MCC).
- ❖ MCC is chemically inert, not absorbed by the body, and does not irritate the skin.

- ❖ It acts as a binder and texturiser, used in pharmaceuticals, food, cosmetics, and other industries.
- ❖ MCC helps to add weight to the drugs and supports active ingredients to work effectively.
- ❖ The explosion killed around 36 workers and exposed gaps in safety culture and equipment maintenance.

