

July - 14

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Indian government is launching a groundbreaking initiative known as Nari Adalats, which are women-only courts established at the village level.

## NATIONAL

### Performance Grading Index

<b>PUNJAB, RAJ, CHANDIGARH BEST IN LEARNING OUTCOMES</b>								
Grade	Overall grade Score	States/UTs attaining overall grade	Learning Outcomes	Access	Infra	Equity	Governance Processes	Teacher education & Training
<b>Daksh</b>	941-1000	NIL	NIL	Delhi	NIL	Delhi	NIL	NIL
<b>Utkarsh</b>	881-940	NIL	NIL	8	NIL	31	NIL	Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Delhi, Chandigarh
<b>Atti-Uttam</b>	821-880	NIL	NIL	10	NIL	4	Gujarat	10
<b>Uttam</b>	761-820	NIL	NIL	12	Chandigarh	NIL	Kerala	13
<b>Prachesta -1</b>	701-760	NIL	NIL	4	5	NIL	11	5
<b>Prachesta -2</b>	641-700	2 (Chandigarh, Punjab)	Punjab, Chandigarh & Rajasthan	1	10	NIL	15	2
<b>Prachesta -3</b>	581-640	6	4	NIL	14	NIL	7	1
<b>Akanshi-1</b>	521-580	13	19	NIL	6	NIL	1	NIL
<b>Akanshi-2</b>	461-520	12	10	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
<b>Akanshi-3</b>	401-460	3	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

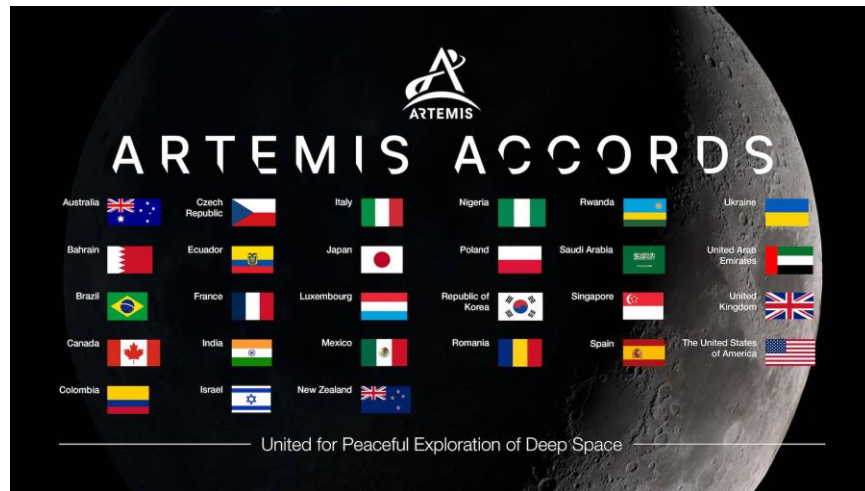
Indian education system is one of the largest in the world with about 14.9 lakh schools, 95 lakh teachers, and nearly 26.5 crore students

- ❖ The Union Ministry of Education has released the Performance Grading Index for Districts (PGI-D) combined report for 2020-21 & 2021-22.
- ❖ The Indian education system is one of the largest in the world.
- ❖ It has about 14.9 lakh schools, 95 lakh teachers and nearly 26.5 crore students from varied socio-economic backgrounds.
- ❖ The report has 10 grades under which districts are categorized.
- ❖ The indicator-wise PGI score shows the areas where a district needs to improve.
- ❖ None of the districts were able to achieve the top two grades (Daksh and Utkarsh).

- ❖ Only two states/UTs, namely Punjab and Chandigarh have attained Grade Prachesta -2 (score 641-700).

## INTERNATIONAL

### US-led Artemis Accord



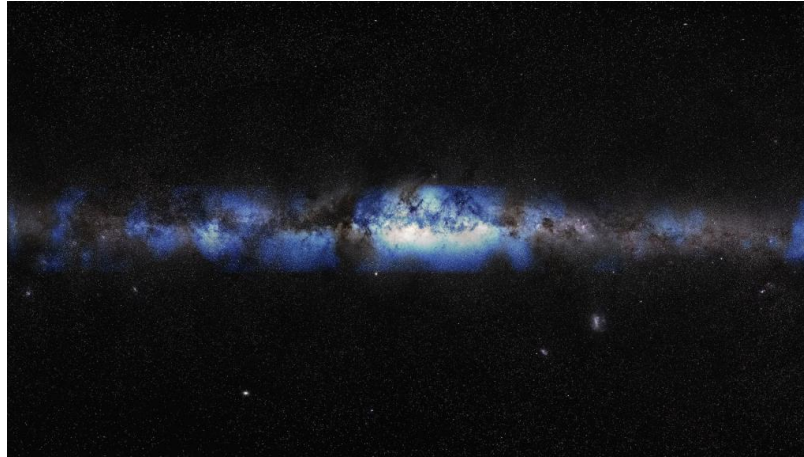
- ❖ India signed the three-year-old Artemis Accords, a US-led international partnership on planetary exploration and research.
- ❖ The Accords have been signed by 26 countries till now, including Japan, Australia, the UK, France, and Canada.
- ❖ A set of 13 principles, the Artemis Accords is closely linked to the Artemis Program.
- ❖ It aims to return astronauts to the lunar surface, build a space camp there, and carry out deep space exploration.
- ❖ It contains a set of principles and guidelines for the civil exploration and use of the Moon, Mars, comets and asteroids.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### First-ever view of the Milky Way

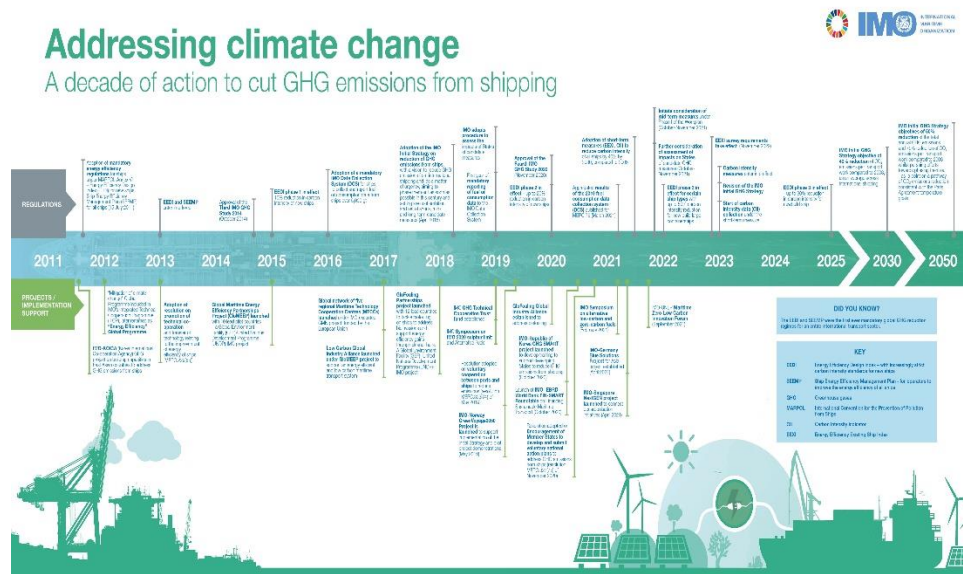
- ❖ Data collected by an observatory in Antarctica has produced our first view of the Milky Way galaxy through the lens of neutrino particles.
- ❖ It's the first time we have seen our galaxy "painted" with a particle, rather than in different wavelengths of light.

- ❖ The Ice Cube Neutrino Observatory uses a gigatonne of the ultra-transparent ice under huge pressures to detect a form of energy called Cherenkov radiation.
- ❖ Its result in roughly spherical showers of light and give the researchers a better level of sensitivity to the astrophysical neutrinos from the Milky Way.



## ENVIRONMENT

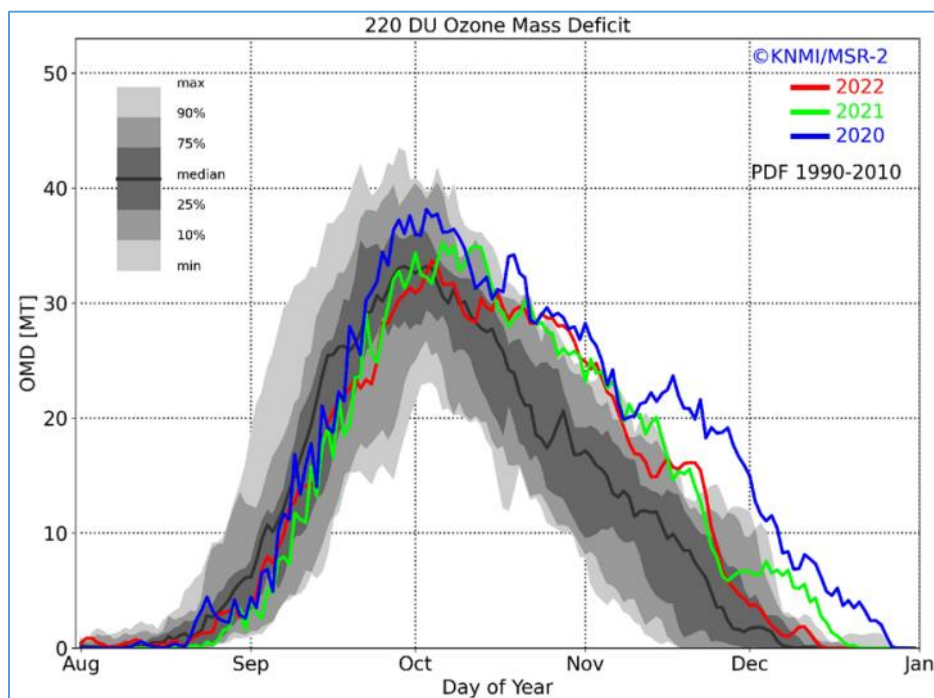
### 2023 IMO Greenhouse Gas Strategy



- ❖ The International Maritime Organisation (IMO) agrees to adopt the 2023 IMO strategy on the reduction of GHG emissions from ships, to mitigate harmful emissions.
- ❖ The shipping industry is responsible for 1 billion tonnes of CO2 emissions annually or 3% of global greenhouse emissions.

- ❖ The revised IMO GHG Strategy focuses on ensuring uptake of alternative zero and near-zero GHG fuels by 2030.
- ❖ It also made a call to reduce the total annual GHG emissions from international shipping by at least 20%, striving for 30%, by 2030, compared to 2008.
- ❖ It urged to reduce the total annual GHG emissions from international shipping by at least 70%, striving for 80%, by 2040, compared to 2008.
- ❖ Near-zero emission technologies, fuels, and energy sources should “represent at least 5%, striving for 10%, of the energy used by 2030.”
- ❖ IMO was established in Geneva in 1948 as a specialised agency of the United Nations.

## Ozone-UV Bulletin



- ❖ The bulletin with the updated status of the ozone layer by World Meteorological Organization - Global Atmosphere Watch bulletin released after a gap of seven years.
- ❖ The ozone layer protects life on Earth from harmful solar ultraviolet (UV) radiation.
- ❖ Depletion of the ozone layer was first observed in the 1980s.
- ❖ To end this, the Montreal Protocol of 1987 has banned the production and consumption of ozone-depleting substances.
- ❖ As of today, 99 per cent of their production and use has been phased out.



- ❖ In 2022, higher than normal ozone columns were observed in the tropics and subtropics and lower than normal ozone columns at higher latitudes.
- ❖ Climate change is slowing down the recovery of the ozone layer.
- ❖ In 2022, the Antarctic ozone hole had a relatively late onset in September and a relatively large extent and depth in October and November.
- ❖ Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai volcanic eruption — the largest in 100 years — increased the water vapour content of the stratosphere by 5-10 per cent.

## REPORTS AND INDICES

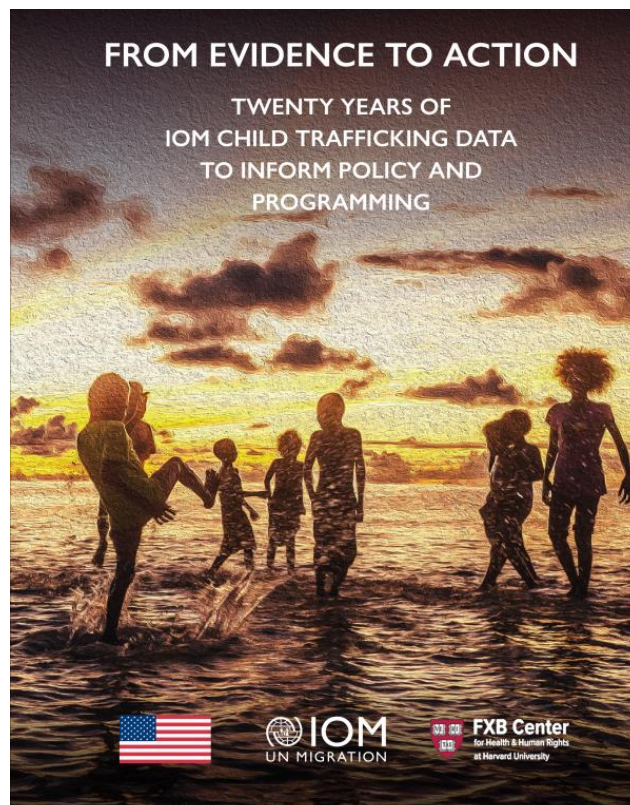
### Multidimensional Poverty Index 2023



- ❖ The global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) was released by the UNDP and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI).
- ❖ 1.1 billion out of 6.1 billion people (just more than 18%) live in acute multidimensional poverty across 110 countries.
- ❖ Sub-Saharan Africa (534 million) and South Asia (389 million) are home to approximately five out of every six poor people.
- ❖ Nearly two-thirds of all poor people (730 million people) live in middle-income countries.

- ❖ Although low-income countries constitute only 10% of the population included in the MPI, these are where 35% of all poor people reside.
- ❖ Children under the age of 18 account for half of MPI-poor people (566 million).
- ❖ The poverty rate among children is 27.7%, while among adults, it is 13.4%.
- ❖ Poverty predominantly affects rural areas, with 84% of all poor people living in rural areas.
- ❖ Rural areas are poorer than urban areas across all regions of the world.
- ❖ Cambodia, Peru, and Nigeria showed significant reductions in their most recent periods.
- ❖ In Cambodia, the most encouraging case among these, the incidence of poverty fell from 36.7% to 16.6%.
- ❖ It halved the number of poor people, from 5.6 million to 2.8 million, all within 7.5 years.

### **IOM report Child trafficking**



- ❖ The report titled “From Evidence to Action: Twenty Years of IOM Child Trafficking Data to Inform Policy and Programming” was recently released.

- ❖ It is a first of its kind and is based on analysis of extensive, globally sourced data, using the IOM's Victims of Trafficking Database (VoTD).
- ❖ As per the report, half of child trafficking victims are trafficked within their own country.
- ❖ In cases of international trafficking, children are mostly trafficked to neighbouring, wealthier countries.
- ❖ Half of the trafficked children, mostly boys, are subjected to forced labor across various industries like domestic work, begging, and agriculture.
- ❖ Sexual exploitation, including through prostitution, pornography, and sexual servitude, is also prominent, affecting 20 per cent of trafficked children, predominantly girls.
- ❖ It analysed primary data from more than 69,000 victims of trafficking of 156 nationalities, trafficked in 186 countries.

## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

### International Biology Olympiad



- ❖ India topped the International Biology Olympiad medal tally for the first time with an all-gold performance at the 34th edition of the competition held in Al Ain, UAE.
- ❖ India had earlier topped the medal tally in other disciplines of International Science Olympiads — Astronomy & Astrophysics (in 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2015 and 2021), Physics (in 2018) and Junior Science (in 2014, 2019, 2021, and 2022).
- ❖ International Science Olympiads are annual competitions in various areas of the formal sciences, natural sciences, and social sciences.

