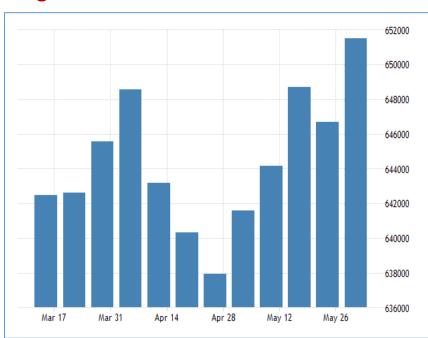




June - 11

TNPSC BITS

- The UN General Assembly (UNGA) elected former Cameroonian Prime Minister Philemon Yang as president of the 79th UNGA session.
- Hungary recently unveiled a monumental 700-metre pedestrian bridge named the 'Bridge of National Unity', spanning the Danube River in Budapest.
- South Korea, India, the United States, Japan, and the European Union (EU) have come together to launch an alliance to put joint efforts into building a resilient supply chain in the biopharmaceutical sector.
- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) was recently given the "Best Conduct of Business Regulator" award for the Asia-Pacific area.
- Ramoji Rao, the head of the ETV Network and Ramoji Film City, passed away recently.
 - $\circ~$ He won the National Award and two Filmfare awards.



ECONOMY

Foreign Exchange Reserves – June 2024

✤ India's foreign exchange reserves hit a record high of \$651.5 billion as of May 31.





- Reserves rose by \$4.8 billion in the reporting week, the biggest rise in over two months.
- ✤ They had fallen by \$2 billion in the prior week.

Global Destinations for Real Estate Investment

- India is ranked among the top five cross-border capital destinations globally for land and development site investments in the March quarter.
- ✤ Foreign investors backing about 55% of the inflows.
- ♦ Notably, 73% of the fresh foreign investments were aimed at ready assets.
- Foreign investments in Indian real estate reached \$3.6 billion in 2023, making up 67% of all the money that came in.



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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Indo-French TRISHNA mission

- The Indian and French space agencies are working on a unique satellite to study the effects of human-induced climate change, water use, snow melting etc.
- ✤ It is abbreviated as 'TRISHNA' (Thermal Infra-Red Imaging Satellite for Highresolution Natural Resource Assessment).

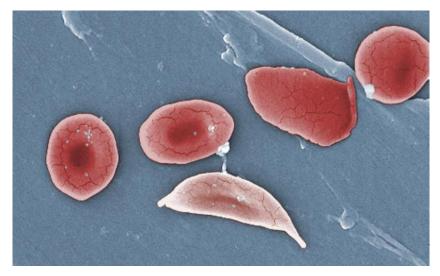




- ✤ It would be placed in a sun-synchronous orbit that's 761kms above the earth.
- The satellite would enable the high-resolution monitoring of earth's surface and various environmental parameters and anomalies.



Hydroxyurea Formulation



- ICMR has invited Expressions of Interest (EoI) from eligible organisations for the "joint development and commercialisation" of low dose or the paediatric oral formulation of hydroxyurea to treat sickle cell disease in India.
- India has the highest prevalence of sickle cell disease in South Asia, and over 20 million sickle cell affected individuals reside in the country.



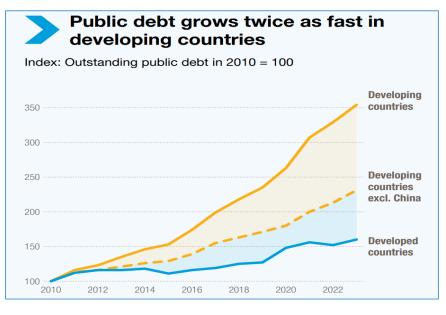


- Most pharmaceutical companies in India market 500 mg capsules or 200 mg tablets of hydroxyurea.
- This is the biggest challenge in treatment for effective use in the case of paediatric patients.

REPORTS AND INDICES

World of Debt Report 2024

- Global debt (including borrowings of households, businesses and governments) has reached \$315 trillion in 2024.
- ✤ This is three times the global gross domestic product (GDP).
- There are about 8.1 billion of us living in the world today.
- If we were to divide that debt up by person, each of us would owe about \$39,000."
- ✤ Of the total global debt, household debt stands at US\$59.1 trillion; business debt at US\$164.5 trillion; and public debt (governments' borrowing) at US\$91.4 trillion.
- ◆ India's public debt reached \$2.9 trillion in 2023, amounting to 82.7% of its GDP.



Environmental Performance Index 2024

- ✤ The Yale Center for Environmental Law & Policy recently published the Environmental Performance Index 2024.
- Estonia leads the rankings, largely due to its significant reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.





- Only five countries—Estonia, Finland, Greece, Timor-Leste, and the United Kingdom—have cut their GHG emissions at the rate needed to reach net zero by 2050.
- In the U.S., which is ranked number 34 on the list, emissions are falling but slowly.
- China, Russia and India continue to produce greater rates of GHG emissions compared with previous years.
- India is ranked 176th, being the world's third-largest greenhouse gas emitter with a 32% increase in emissions over the past decade.
- Only Myanmar, Laos, Pakistan and Viet Nam ranked below India.
- In 2022, India surpassed China as the largest emitter of anthropogenic sulphur dioxide.

COUNTRY	RANK	SCORE	10y 🛆	Bangladesh	175	27.8	2.4
Estonia	1	75.3	17.3	India	176	27.6	4.6
Luxembourg	2	75.0	4.1	Myanmar	177	26.9	-2.7
Germany	3	74.6	4.4	Laos	178	26.1	1.0
Finland	4	73.7	8.3	Pakistan	179	25.5	-3.9
United Kingdom	5	72.7	2.1	Viet Nam	180	24.5	-4.6

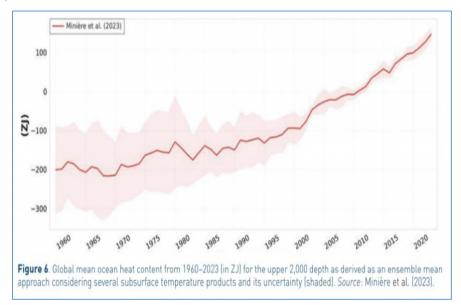
State of Ocean Report 2024

- The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO launched the State of the Ocean Report 2024 publication (StOR) in Iceland.
- The upper 2,000 metres (m) of oceans warmed at a rate of 0.32 ± 0.03 watt per square metre (W/m2) from 1960 through 2023.
- ✤ The accelerated ocean warming in the past two decades, where the rate has doubled to 0.66 ± 0.10 W/m2.
- ◆ In 2024, 638 stations that record ocean pH levels exist.

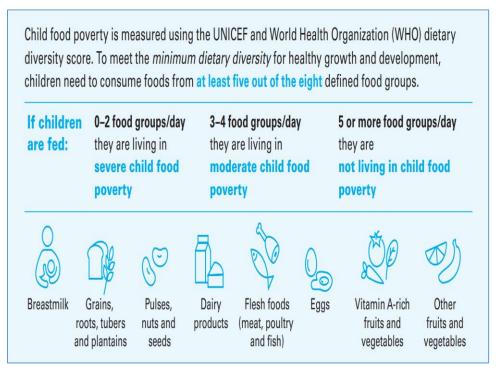




The global mean sea level from 1993 to 2023 increased at a rate of 3.4 +/-0.3 mm/yr.



Child Nutrition Report 2024



- ♦ UNICEF released the "Child Nutrition Report, 2024".
- Globally, one in four children (27 per cent) are living in severe child food poverty (CFP) in early childhood





- It is amounting to 181 million children under 5 years of age.
- Twenty countries account for almost two-thirds (65 per cent) of the total number of children living in severe child food poverty.
- ✤ In India, 40% suffer from severe CFP, the second highest in South Asia.
- Economic Inequality led to 74% can't afford a healthy diet.
- Only 69% of Indians are using improved sanitation facilities.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Global Farewell for Sunil Chhetri

- Indian football player, Sunil Chhetri has officially retired from the international football.
- Chhetri got 94 goals in 151 international games.
- It ranks him fourth all-time in terms of goals scored by an international player.
- ↔ His retirement was celebrated all over the world, with tributes coming from FIFA.



Sunita Williams 3rd space journey

- Indian-origin astronaut Sunita Williams entered into the International Space Station.
- She made a 24-hour journey in the Starliner spacecraft she piloted to space.
- In 2012, during a prior trip to the International Space Station, Williams became the first person to finish a triathlon in space.





Ms Williams went on her first space voyage on December 9, 2006, which lasted until June 22, 2007.



MISCELLANEOUS

Virus to Slow Down Melting



- Scientists have discovered mysterious giant viruses on Greenland's ice sheet.
- These viruses were discovered for the first time in 1981 in the ocean.
- They usually infect the algae in the sea.
- ✤ But this is the first time that giant viruses have been found in such a habitat.
- They say the giant viruses may act as some sort of secret weapon and help in minimising the ice from melting.





- Regular viruses measure 20-200 nanometres in size, whereas a typical Bacteria is 2-3 micrometres.
- ◆ In other words, a normal virus is around 1,000 times smaller than a Bacteria.
- But giant viruses grow to the size of 2.5 micrometres, that is bigger than most bacteria.

