



June - 23

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Madras High Court, declared that it is not necessary for a woman to get the permission of her husband and take his signature before applying for a passport.
- ❖ The DRDO will soon begin the manufacturing of new variants of the Pinaka rocket system with extended ranges of 120 km and 300 km.
- ❖ One of the largest in history, Cyber security leakage has been observed by cyber security experts which steals up to 3.5 billion user records.
- ❖ The telecom subscriber base in India has crossed the 1.2 billion user mark for the second time, reaching base of 1,201.22 million at the end of April 2025.
- ❖ India's first 3-nanometre (3nm) chip design centres were launched in Noida and Bengaluru.
- ❖ The Hindu magazine was named Champion of Digital Media Awards South Asia 2025, picking up 10 awards across various award categories, at the WAN-IFRA Digital Media Awards 2025 South Asia.
- ❖ Gujarat's Rajkot has converted a decades-long dumping ground into a 20-acre green urban forest under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs "the Lakshya Zero Dumpsite" program.
- ❖ During the recent United Nations Oceans Conference (UNOC) held at France, 56 countries in the earth had ratified the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) agreement.
  - It requires 60 ratifications to become legally binding.

## NATIONAL NEWS

### Key Innovations in Bye-Polls 2025

- ❖ Bye-elections were concluded in five Assembly constituencies in four states - Gujarat, Kerala, West Bengal and Punjab.
- ❖ In a first-of-its-kind move, the ECI has provided voters with secure mobile deposit facilities at the entrance of all polling stations.
- ❖ Presiding Officers were enabled to directly input turnout data every two hours using the upgraded ECINET App.
- ❖ For the first time, webcasting was conducted at nearly 100% of polling stations.
- ❖ One polling station in the five constituencies were brought under round-the-clock webcasting surveillance.

- ❖ A Special Summary Revision (SSR) of the electoral rolls conducted ahead of the bye-polls.
- ❖ This measure was taken for the first time in nearly 20 years.



### Gender Budgeting Knowledge Hub



- ❖ The Centre launched a web portal named 'Gender Budgeting Knowledge Hub'.
- ❖ Over the past 11 years, Gender Budget allocations have increased by four and a half times — from ₹0.98 lakh crore in 2014-15 to ₹4.49 lakh crore in 2025-26.
- ❖ The Hub is a digital repository of all information related to the gender budgeting processes.

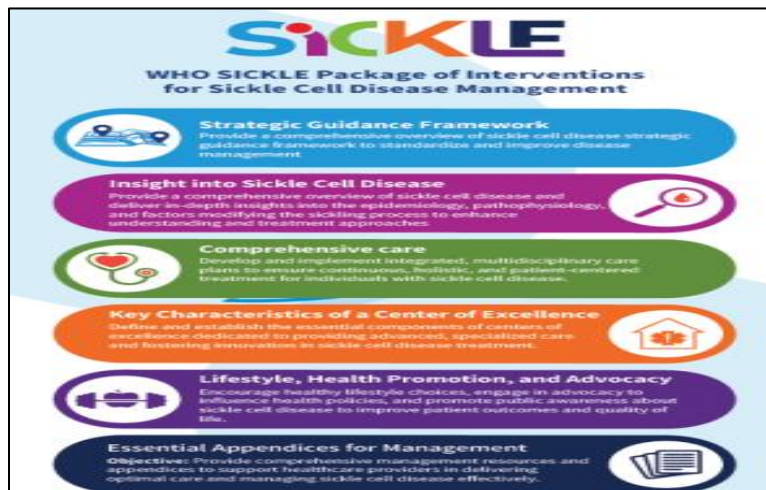
## 50 Years of Crocodile Conservation Project



- ❖ India began its Crocodile Conservation programme in 1975.
- ❖ India launched this project at Odisha's Bhitarkanika National Park with support from UNDP and the FAO.
- ❖ This year marks 50 years of this initiative.
- ❖ India is home to three main kinds of crocodile species – the gharial, the salt water crocodile or salties, and the muggers.
- ❖ Odisha is the only Indian state to host the wild populations of all three native crocodilian species.
- ❖ India hosts nearly 80% of the global wild gharial population.

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Sickle Cell Disease Management Guidelines

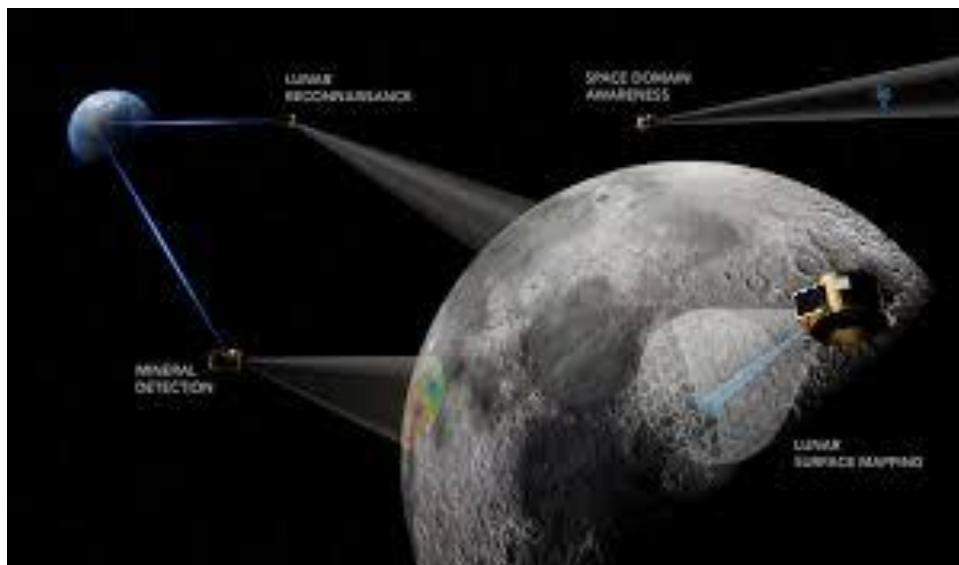


- ❖ The World Health Organization (WHO) has introduced its first global guideline for managing sickle cell disease (SCD) during pregnancy.
- ❖ The guideline includes over 20 recommendations including the folic acid and iron supplementation.
- ❖ Women with SCD face a 4- to 11-fold higher likelihood of the maternal death than those without.
- ❖ Sickle cell disease is an inherited blood disorder.
- ❖ It causes red blood cells to become rigid and shaped like sickles.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

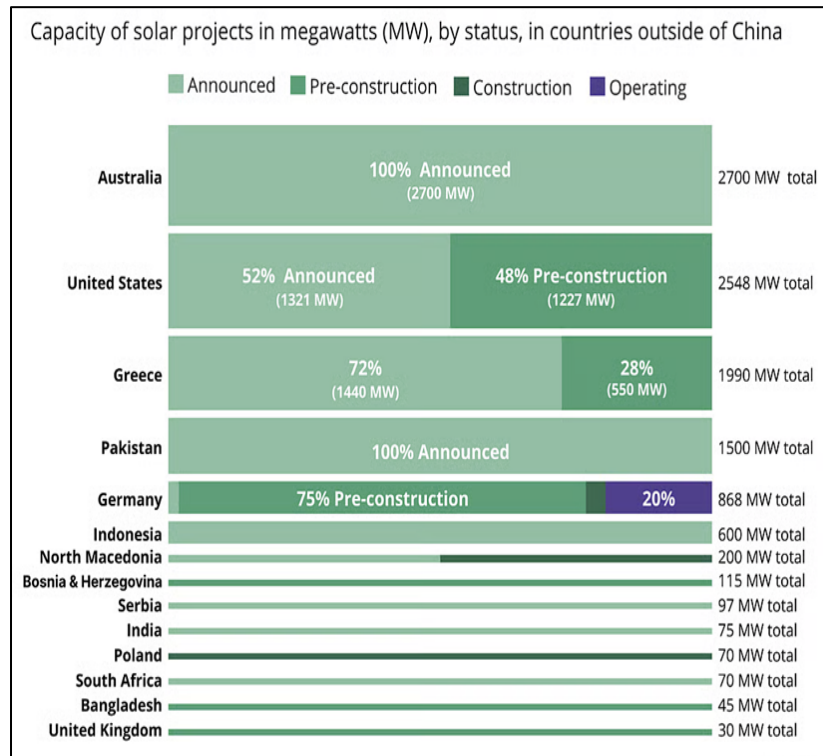
### Extreme Helium Star - A980

- ❖ The scientists from the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), Bengaluru, have identified Extreme Helium in Star - A980.
- ❖ The distant star A980 is located approximately 25,800 light years away in the Ophiuchus Constellation.
- ❖ Initially it was believed to be a hydrogen-deficient carbon (HdC) star.
- ❖ This mysterious celestial body has now been reclassified as an Extreme Helium (EHe) star.
- ❖ Also, they found evidence of singly-ionized germanium (Ge II)—a metallic element that has never before been detected in this type of star.
- ❖ This is the first confirmed observation of germanium in an EHe star.



## ENVIRONMENT NEWS

### Solar Power Potential from Coal Mines



- ❖ India has the fourth highest potential in the world to generate solar power from abandoned coal mines.
- ❖ 63 disused mine sites could collectively generate around 27.11 gigawatts (GW) of the solar power.
- ❖ It is equivalent to nearly 37 percent of country's current installed solar capacity.
- ❖ Telangana, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh feature among the top 20 global regions with the highest land availability from closed or soon-to-be-closed mines.
- ❖ Other 3 top countries are Australia, Indonesia and the United States.

### Doomsday Fish (Oarfish) in Tamil Nadu

- ❖ A rare oarfish, ominously dubbed the 'doomsday fish' in Japanese folklore, was recently caught off the Tamil Nadu coast.
- ❖ The creature captured in Tamil Nadu is a giant oarfish (Regalecus glesne).
- ❖ It is the world's longest bony fish, which can reach lengths of up to 36 feet (11 meters).

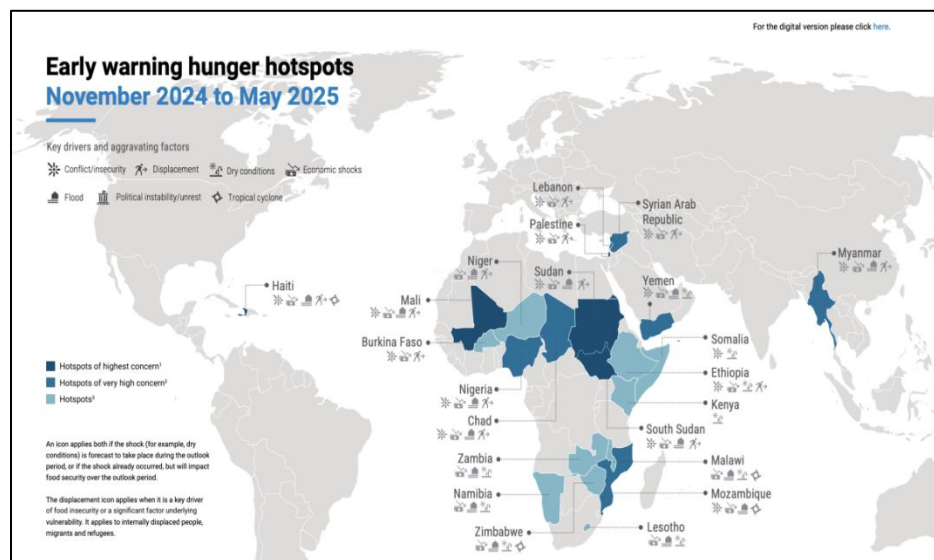


- ❖ They typically inhabit the mesopelagic zone, dwelling 660 to 3,300 feet beneath the ocean's surface.
- ❖ As per the Japanese folklore, Oarfish are also called 'ryugu no tsukai,' meaning 'messenger from the sea god's palace.'



## REPORTS AND INDICES

### Hunger Hotspots 2025



- ❖ The UN's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and World Food Programme (WFP) have issued the Hunger Hotspots: FAO-WFP early warning on acute food insecurity
- ❖ African countries Sudan, South Sudan and Mali are among five global hunger hotspots of highest concern.

- ❖ Conversely, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lebanon, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Zambia, and Zimbabwe are no longer on the Hunger Hotspots list.

## STATES' NEWS

### MoU with NFWPIS



- ❖ The Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare (MoA&FW) organized the 'National Conference on Agri Stack: Turning Data into Delivery'.
- ❖ MoUs with Maharashtra, Kerala, Bihar, and Odisha, and the PSB Alliance with the National Farmers' Welfare Program Implementation Society was signed in the event.
- ❖ It aims to enable seamless digital access to credit services through farmer registry-linked authentication.

## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

### Skytrax 2025 Awards

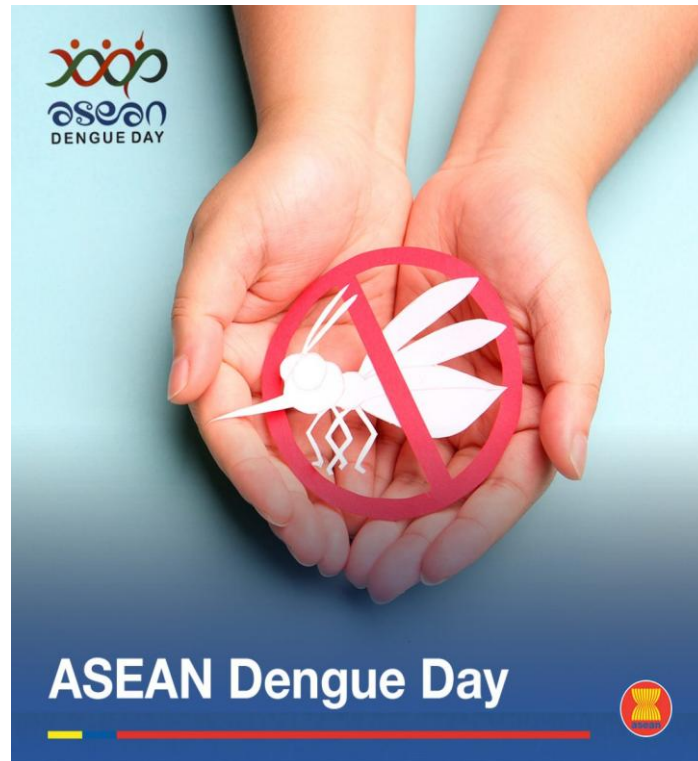
- ❖ The Skytrax World Airline Awards are widely regarded as the "Oscars of the aviation industry."
- ❖ India's IndiGo Airlines has been ranked third among the world's top very low-cost carriers in 2025.
- ❖ Regionally, it ranked top for the Best Airline and Best Low-Cost Airline in South Asia for 2025.

- ❖ Qatar Airways has been named the World's Best Airline 2025, claiming the title for the ninth time.



## IMPORTANT DAYS

### Asean Dengue Day 2025 - June 15



- ❖ The 10th ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting in 2010 designated this Day.
- ❖ It aims to combat the dengue through a comprehensive prevention, control, and management strategies aimed at reducing both incidence and mortality.



- ❖ Dengue virus is primarily transmitted to humans through the bite of the infected mosquitoes.
- ❖ This year's theme for this day is "ASEAN United: Zero dengue deaths a future we build together".

### **International Domestic Workers' Day 2025 - June 16**

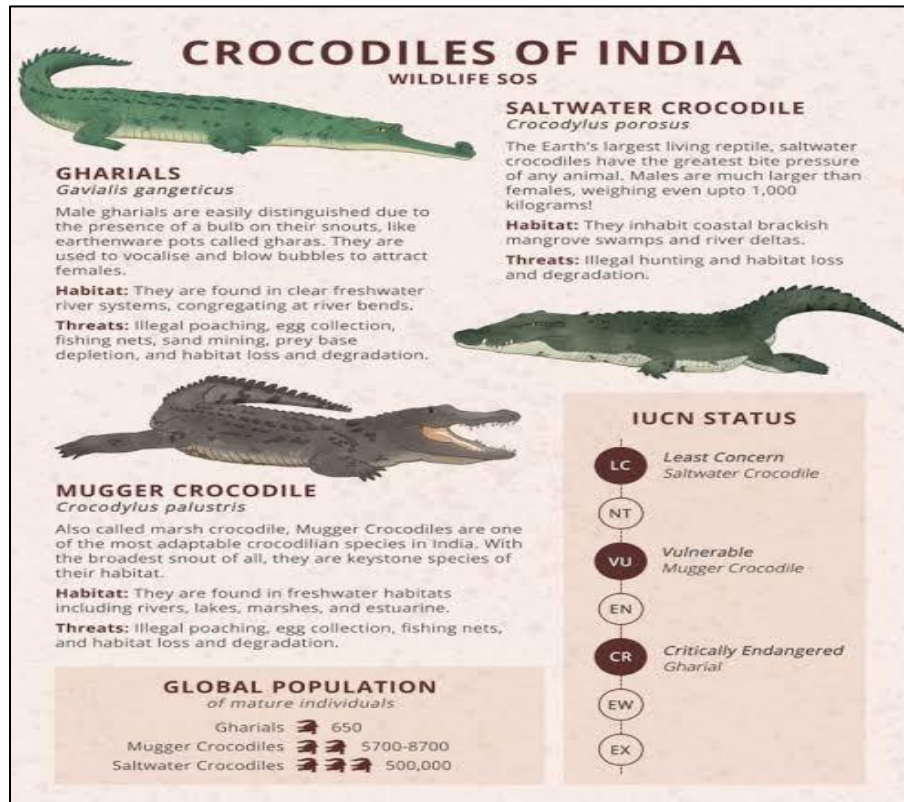


- ❖ It is the anniversary of the adoption of the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189).
- ❖ This is the first time that domestic work has been recognised as real work.
- ❖ Around the world, over 75 million domestic workers support the very fabric of our homes, families, and communities.
- ❖ As care needs rise - with 2.3 billion people expected to require care services by 2030.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is "Recognizing Care, Advancing Dignity and Rights for the Domestic Workers".

### **World Crocodile Day 2025 - June 17**

- ❖ It aims to raise awareness about the conservation of crocodiles and alligators.
- ❖ It is an initiative of the Belize-based Crocodile Research Alliance.
- ❖ This event in 2025 also commemorated the 50th anniversary of India's Crocodile conservation project.
- ❖ The 3 main species of crocodiles are found in India,
  - Saltwater crocodile (*Crocodylus porosus*),
  - Mugger crocodile (*Crocodylus palustris*), and

- Gharial (*Gavialis gangeticus*).
- ❖ Odisha is the only State to host the wild populations of all three native species.



## MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

### 20 years of NIXI




- ❖ The National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) celebrated its 20th foundation day recently.
- ❖ It was set up in 2003 under the Union Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
- ❖ It currently operates 77 Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) across the country.

- ❖ This helps domestic traffic stay within India's borders — reducing latency, increasing speed, and enhancing security.





### **NAKSHATRA facility**

- ❖ The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has introduced its first very high-performance computing facility at its National Institute of Virology (NIV) facility in Pune.
- ❖ It is named as NAKSHATRA.
- ❖ It enables an enhanced storage and optimises the pipeline for genomic research.
- ❖ It will ensure the better viral genomic surveillance capacity and high national preparedness for any future pandemic.
- ❖ It is developed under Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PMABHIM).



The infographic features a portrait of Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the left. To his right is a photograph of a modern hospital ward with several beds and medical equipment. Logos for the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, and myGov are in the top right corner. The main title is 'PM Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission' in bold blue text, followed by the subtitle 'Pan-India Health Infrastructure Scheme for World-Class Facilities'. Below this, four key points are listed, each with an icon: a cross and clock for long-term public healthcare infrastructure, a hospital building for district-level self-reliance, a gear and people icon for capacity building through investment, and a percentage sign for the total outlay of Rs 64,180 crore over 5 years.

**PM Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission**  
Pan-India Health Infrastructure Scheme for World-Class Facilities

-  Creation & improvement of long-term public healthcare infrastructure
-  Health infrastructure in each district, making them self-reliant
-  Comprehensive capacity building through increased investment
-  Outlay of Rs 64,180 crore over 5 years

### **Fossil Discovery in Makum Coalfield**

- ❖ Scientists have uncovered a 24-million-year-old Fossilized leaves in the coal beds of Assam's Makum Coalfield.
- ❖ They are identified as the world's oldest known record of the Nothopegia plant genus.



- ❖ The fossil leaves dated back to the late Oligocene epoch (24–23 million years ago).
- ❖ They bear a striking resemblance to the modern *Nothopegia* species found today in the Western Ghats.
- ❖ Notably, the *Nothopegia* genus no longer grows in Northeast India.
- ❖ These findings reveal a warm, humid climate during the late Oligocene, which once supported *Nothopegia*'s growth in Assam.

