

June - 25

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The USA will open two new consulates in Bengaluru and Ahmedabad.
- ❖ India recently cleared a deal worth over USD 4 billion to buy 31 Predator drones from the US.
- ❖ The unique yoga session at the U.N. Headquarters commemorates the 9th International Day of Yoga which saw the participation from top U.N. officials.
- ❖ Reliance Industries Ltd is the most valuable private company in India followed by Tata Consultancy Services and HDFC Bank, as per Hurun India's 2022 Burgundy Private Hurun India 500 list.
- ❖ The construction work of the 'world's largest Ramayan temple' started in the East Champaran district of Bihar.

NATIONAL

BIS Standards for Biodegradable Agri By-Product Utensils



- ❖ The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has issued standards for agricultural by-product utensils.
- ❖ It aims to reduce plastic pollution and promote sustainability.
- ❖ The published standard will be IS 18267: 2023 "Food Serving Utensils Made from Agri By-Products – Specification".

- ❖ It provides comprehensive guidelines to manufacturers and consumers to ensure uniformity in quality requirements across the country.

INTERNATIONAL

NATO Plus

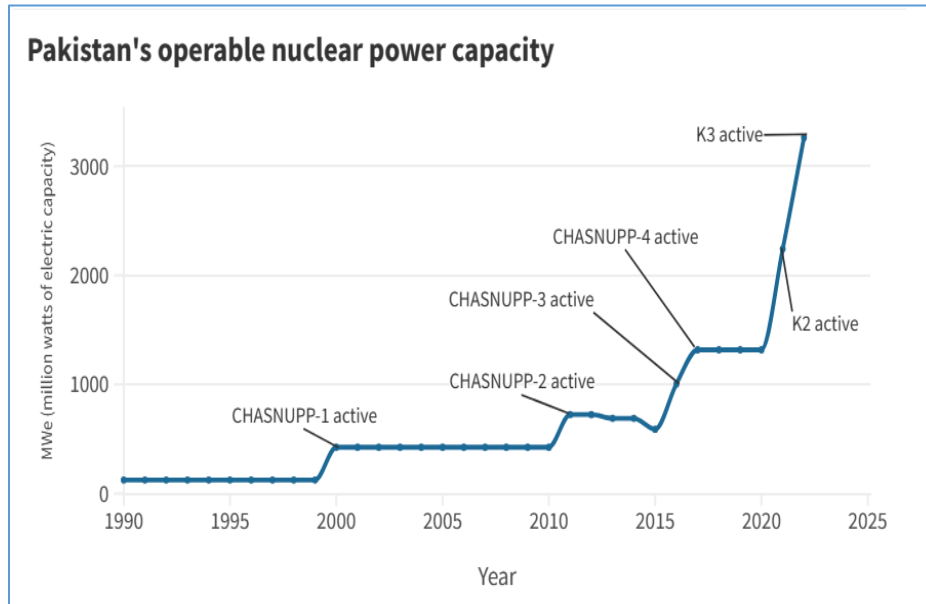
- ❖ US Senator plans to introduce a bill that would make India a part of the NATO Plus grouping.
- ❖ The NATO Plus security arrangement currently includes NATO and five aligned nations.
- ❖ The 5 are Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Israel, and South Korea.
- ❖ Its purpose is to boost defence and intelligence ties.
- ❖ NATO is a transatlantic alliance of 31 like-minded North American and European countries.
- ❖ It was established by the North Atlantic Treaty (Washington Treaty) - 1949.



Nuclear Power Plant for Pakistan

- ❖ China and Pakistan entered a \$4.8 billion agreement to set up a 1,200-megawatt nuclear power plant at Chasma.
- ❖ The installed capacity of the existing four power plants is 1,330 megawatts.

- ❖ Two other nuclear power plants are also operational in Pakistan.



INDUS X event



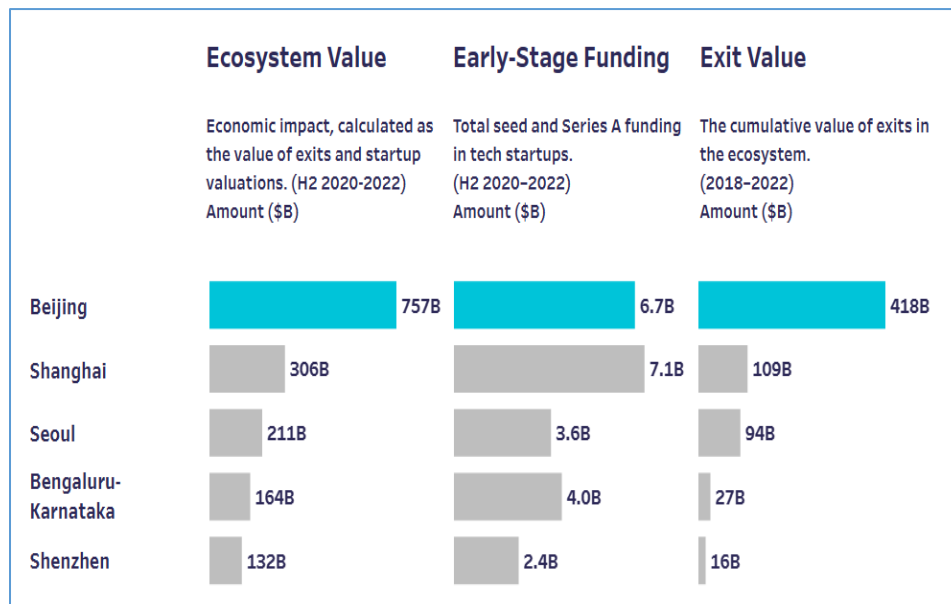
- ❖ India-United States Defence Acceleration Ecosystem (INDUS X) was launched at an event in Washington DC.
- ❖ The initiative aims to foster collaboration and innovation between Indian and US defence startups, promoting technological advancements in the sector.

- ❖ It will create jobs for working families in both countries and promote global peace, security, and prosperity.

REPORTS AND INDICES

Global Startup Ecosystem Report 2023

- ❖ In Startup Genome's The Global Startup Ecosystems Report (GSER) 2023, Bengaluru climbed 2 spots coming to 20th place.
- ❖ Pune lay in the 31-40 range in 2023.
- ❖ The Global Startup Ecosystem Report 2023 is an extensive analysis stating the current state of startup ecosystems around the world
- ❖ In the report, Silicon Valley remaining at the top followed by New York City and London at No 2.



State of the Climate in Europe 2022 Report

- ❖ This report was prepared by the World Meteorological Organisation and the European Union's Copernicus Climate Change Service.
- ❖ It has emerged as the fastest-warming continent of the world.
- ❖ Its temperature rising by 2.3-degree Celsius last year compared to that in pre-industrial times.
- ❖ Across the continent, temperatures rose 1.5C in 30 years from 1991 to 2021

- ❖ Weather-related production losses accounted for approximately just about 0.35 per cent of global nuclear energy generation in 2022.



STATES

Punjab Police (Amendment) Bill, 2023

- ❖ The Punjab assembly passed the Punjab Police (Amendment) Bill, 2023.
- ❖ It aims to bring about an independent mechanism for the selection and appointment of suitable persons to the post of the DGP.

- ❖ It will make the process “free from political or executive interference.”
- ❖ In 2019, the Supreme Court had rejected petitions filed by Punjab, Kerala, West Bengal, Haryana, and Bihar to allow them to select DGPs based on similar laws passed in their respective State Assemblies.

Karnataka’s Anna Bhagya Scheme



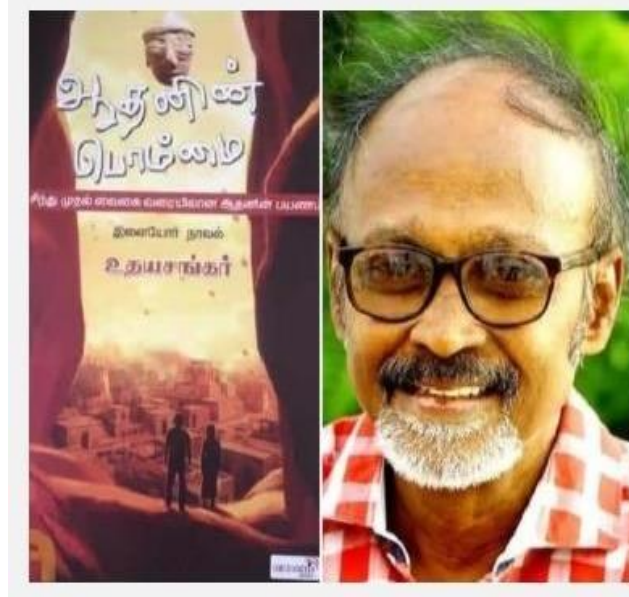
- ❖ The Congress government announced Anna Bhagya scheme as one of the five pre-poll guarantees.
- ❖ It is looking to supply five kg of rice per person for BPL card-holding families over and above the five kg that the Centre is supplying currently.
- ❖ With about 2.29 lakh metric tonnes of additional required per month.
- ❖ The Food Corporation of India (FCI), which had initially agreed to supply the quantity, later rescinded its decision.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Bal Sahitya Puraskar for Tamil

- ❖ Writer Udhayasankar was selected for the Bal Sahitya Puraskar Award for his novel Aadhanin Bommai.
- ❖ It was written with Keezhadi excavations as its theme and it makes known “our roots to the youth”.
- ❖ The books authored by him include - Munnoru Kalathil (Once Upon a time), Pirithoru Maranam (One more death), Mayakkannadi (Illusion Mirror), and

Kumarapuram Railway Stationil Oriraravu (A Night in the Kumarapuram Railway station).



Yuva Puraskar for Tamil



❖ Ram Thangam was selected for Yuva Puraskar Award for Thirukarthiyal.

- ❖ It is a collection of short stories.
- ❖ His first book Gandhiraman was published in 2015.
- ❖ Later, his works Oor Sutri Paravai and Meenava Veeranukku Oru Kovil were published.
- ❖ The short story collection titled Thirkarthiyal was published in 2018.
- ❖ He also authored many books including Rajavanam, a novel, his second collection of short stories titled Pulikuthi, travelogues Kadavulin Desathil (Two parts) and the like.
- ❖ The awards conferred by Sahitya Akademi.

2023 Iqbal Masih Award - Lalitha Natarajan

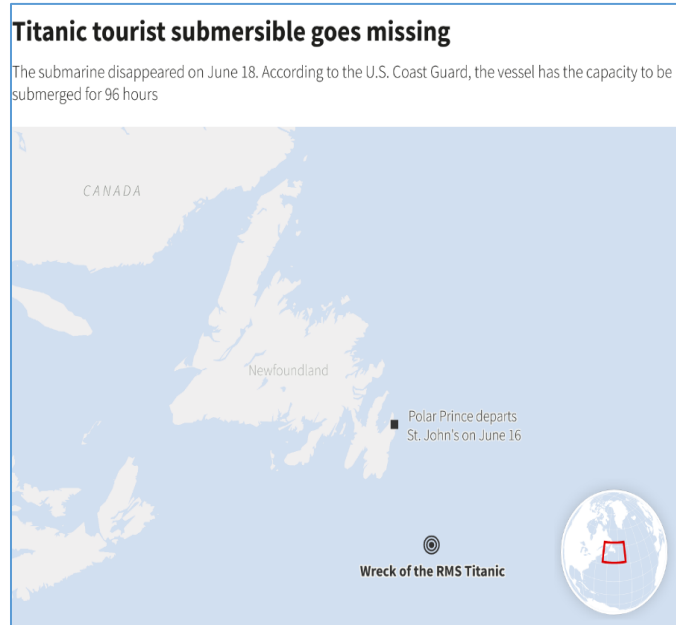


- ❖ The United States department of labour has honoured lawyer and activist Lalitha Natarajan with the 2023 Iqbal Masih Award for the Elimination of Child Labour.
- ❖ Lalitha has been constantly fighting to end exploitative child labour in south India.
- ❖ She identifies child victims of trafficking, specifically bonded labour, assisting in their re-integration into society.

- ❖ The Iqbal Masih Award is a US Congress-mandated, non-monetary award established by the secretary of labour in 2008.
- ❖ It honours extraordinary contributions to combat child labour.

MISCELLANEOUS

Catastrophic implosion



- ❖ A deep-sea submersible carrying five people on a voyage to the wreck of the Titanic was found in pieces from a "catastrophic implosion".
- ❖ The submersible, known as the Titan, was operated by the U.S. based company Ocean Gate Expeditions.
- ❖ Five men aboard the Titan, including the company's founder and chief executive officer, Stockton Rush, who was piloting the Titan.
- ❖ The RMS Titanic, which struck an iceberg and sank during its maiden voyage in 1912, killed more than 1,500 people aboard.
- ❖ At the depth the Titanic rests, there is around 5,600 pounds per square inch of pressure.
- ❖ A catastrophic implosion is "incredibly quick," taking place within just a fraction of a millisecond.

