

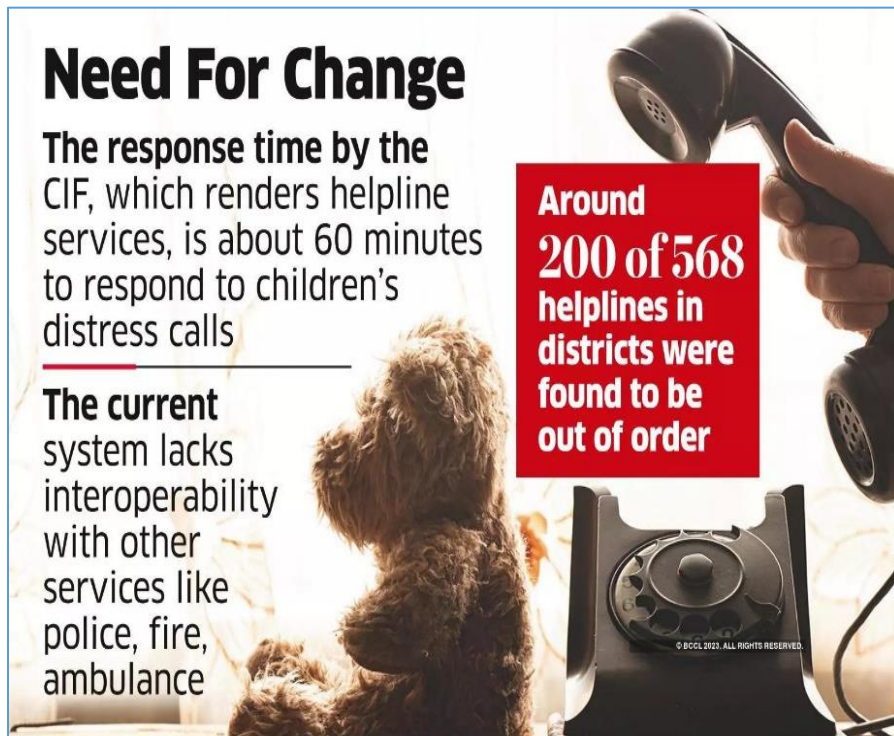
June - 26

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Narendra Modi is the first Indian prime minister to address the United States Congress twice.
 - This will put him in the group of leaders like Nelson Mandela and Winston Churchill and Benjamin Netanyahu.
- ❖ The man behind the iconic Amul Girl 'utterly butterly' campaign (1966), Sylvester daCunha passed away at Mumbai recently.

NATIONAL

One Nation One Helpline



Need For Change

The response time by the CIF, which renders helpline services, is about 60 minutes to respond to children's distress calls

The current system lacks interoperability with other services like police, fire, ambulance

Around 200 of 568 helplines in districts were found to be out of order

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- ❖ The Centre decided to integrate women helpline, child helpline with ERSS-112 (Emergency Response Support System).
- ❖ Childline services is defined in Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act, 2015 under section 2(25).
- ❖ As a 24-hours emergency outreach service is for children in crisis which links them to emergency or long-term care and rehabilitation service.

- ❖ The service can be accessed by any child in crisis or an adult on their behalf by dialling a four-digit toll free number (1098).
- ❖ The Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Kerala will function as a total solution provider (TSP) for automation of child helpline-1098 and its integration with ERSS-112.

Test flight for cloud seeding

- ❖ The Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IITK) has conducted a test flight for cloud seeding.
- ❖ It aims to help create conditions for rain which would help to combat dry conditions and air pollution.
- ❖ The Cloud seeding involves the utilisation of various chemical agents such as silver iodide, dry ice, common salt, and other elements with the aim of enhancing the probability of precipitation.



INTERNATIONAL

Bangladesh Floats Currency

- ❖ Bangladesh's central bank will allow the currency to float freely for the first time in the country's history.
- ❖ This is the demands from the IMF in order to unlock more money from the \$4.7 billion loan program.
- ❖ Pakistan, Egypt and Lebanon were among those that have dropped their fixed exchange rates this year.

- ❖ A floating exchange rate is a regime where the currency price of a nation is set by the forex market based on supply and demand relative to other currencies.
- ❖ This is in contrast to a fixed exchange rate, in which the government entirely or predominantly determines the rate.

| Fixed Exchange Rate | Basis | Flexible Exchange Rate |
|---|------------------------|---|
| The system of exchange rate in which exchange rate is officially declared and fixed by the government. | Meaning | The system of exchange rate in which value of a currency is allowed freely to float as determined by demand for and supply of foreign exchange. |
| It ensures stability in international money market / exchange market. Day to day fluctuations are avoided. | Stability | It causes instability in the international money market. |
| It implies low risk and low uncertainty of future payments. It encourages international trade. | International Trade | Instability in foreign exchange market causes instability in the area of international trade. |
| It discourages venture capital in international money market. | Venture Capital | It encourages venture capital in international money market. |
| It is often supported with huge international reserves of gold. This is because of different currencies are directly or indirectly convertible into gold. | International Reserves | It is not to be supported with international reserves |

St. Petersburg International Economic Forum



- ❖ The 26th edition of the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF), held recently in Russia's second-largest city.
- ❖ SPIEF is a unique event in the world of business and economics.
- ❖ It has been held since 1997.



- ❖ Since 2006, it has been held under the auspices of the President of the Russian Federation.
- ❖ It was probably the only such elite gathering of global business community leaders in this part of the world.

ECONOMY

Russian oil imports record high



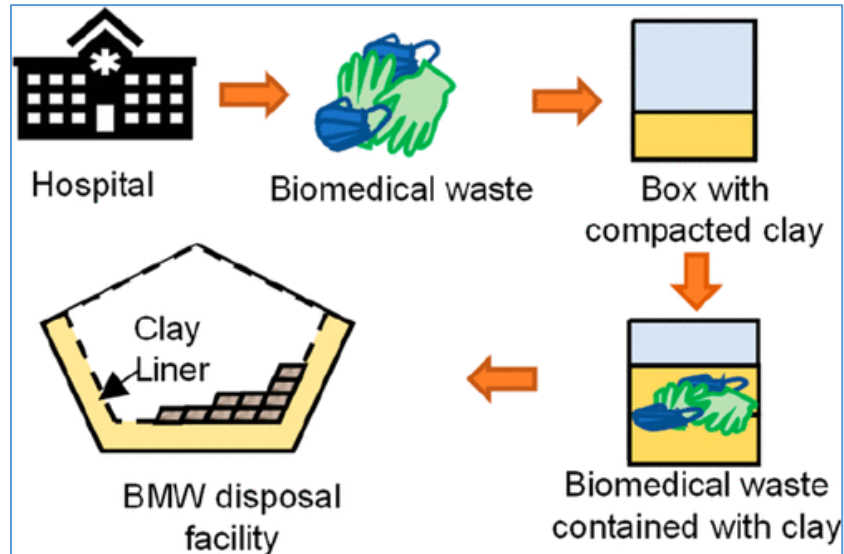
- ❖ India's rising imports of Russian oil hit a record high of about 1.95 million barrels per day (bpd) in May.
- ❖ India is the world's third biggest oil consumer and importer.
- ❖ It buys more than 80 per cent of its oil from overseas markets.

ENVIRONMENT

Disposal of Medical Waste using Clay

- ❖ IIT Guwahati proposes the use of compost natural clay to neutralise pathogens in waste.
- ❖ The research findings revealed that viral decay was quicker on bentonite compared to kaolin clay.
- ❖ It was observed that the removal efficiency of the virus depended on the quality of bentonite and multilayer sorption of the virus on clay surfaces.

- ❖ Biomedical waste (BMW) that contains viruses poses significant risks to human health, food safety, animal health, and the environment.



REPORTS AND INDICES

EIU Global Liveability Index 2023

| Top 10 positions | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|-------------|------|-------|-----------|------------|-----------------------|-----------|----------------|
| City | Location | Rank | Index | Stability | Healthcare | Culture & environment | Education | Infrastructure |
| Vienna | Austria | 1 | 98.4 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 93.5 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Copenhagen | Denmark | 2 | 98.0 | 100.0 | 95.8 | 95.4 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Melbourne | Australia | 3 | 97.7 | 95.0 | 100.0 | 95.8 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Sydney | Australia | 4 | 97.4 | 95.0 | 100.0 | 94.4 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Vancouver | Canada | 5 | 97.3 | 95.0 | 100.0 | 97.2 | 100.0 | 96.4 |
| Zurich | Switzerland | 6 | 97.1 | 95.0 | 100.0 | 96.3 | 100.0 | 96.4 |
| Calgary | Canada | 7 | 96.8 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 87.3 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Geneva | Switzerland | 7 | 96.8 | 95.0 | 100.0 | 94.9 | 100.0 | 96.4 |
| Toronto | Canada | 9 | 96.5 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 94.4 | 100.0 | 89.3 |
| Osaka | Japan | 10 | 96.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 86.8 | 100.0 | 96.4 |
| Auckland | New Zealand | 10 | 96.0 | 95.0 | 95.8 | 97.9 | 100.0 | 92.9 |

Source: EIU.

- ❖ Austria's capital Vienna has been named as the world's "most liveable city" for 2023.
- ❖ Denmark's capital Copenhagen also retained its second-place position in the list.
- ❖ Following it are two Australian cities, Melbourne and Sydney, respectively.
- ❖ The list is released by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU).
- ❖ From India, New Delhi and Mumbai are at 141st position and Chennai at 144th.

- ❖ Ahmedabad and Bengaluru are ranked 147 and 148, respectively.
- ❖ Damascus, Syria is the least liveable city in the index for more than a decade.

STATES

North India's first Skin Bank



- ❖ North India's first Skin Bank has been inaugurated at New Delhi's Safdarjung Hospital.
- ❖ It is a bank where deceased donors can donate their skin which will be helpful in treating burns.
- ❖ The skin can be donated within six hours of death and utilized for burns and trauma patients after processing.
- ❖ The country has 16 skin banks - seven in Maharashtra, four in Chennai, three in Karnataka, and one each in Madhya Pradesh and Odisha.

IMPORTANT DAYS

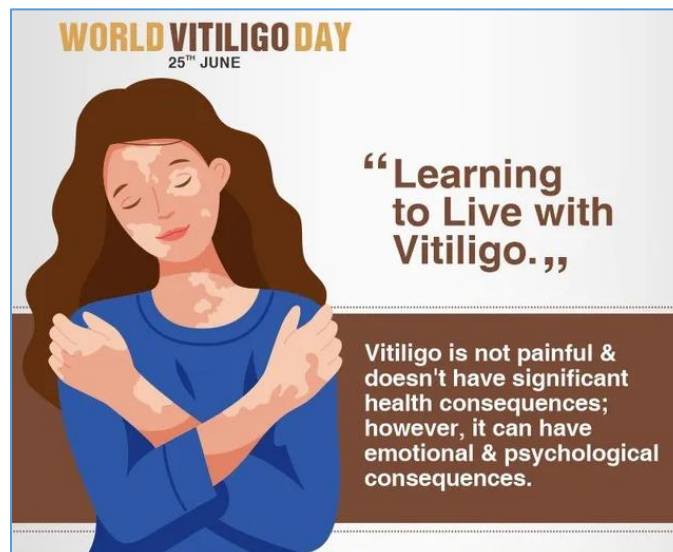
International Day of Women in Diplomacy 2023 - June 24

- ❖ This day celebrates inspiring women in fields of diplomacy and decision-making, around the world.
- ❖ Armenian ambassador Diana Abgar is considered as the first female diplomat of the 20th century.
- ❖ The theme for 2023 is “Breaking Barriers, Shaping the Future: Women in Diplomacy for Sustainable Development”.

- ❖ This day was created just last year, at the 76th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).
- ❖ As of January 2023, there 34 women serve as heads of state and/or government of 31 countries.



World Vitiligo Day 2023 - June 25



- ❖ It is observed to raise awareness about vitiligo, a chronic skin disorder characterised by the loss of skin colour in patches.
- ❖ The day aims to promote a better understanding of the condition, provide support to those affected by vitiligo and advocate for the rights and well-being of individuals living with the disorder.
- ❖ Vitiligo affects people of all ages, genders and ethnic backgrounds and its exact cause is not yet fully understood.

- ❖ It was first observed on June 25, 2011.

Day of the Seafarer 2023 - June 25

- ❖ This day recognize the unique part played in international trade, the world economy and civil society by this seaborne workforce.
- ❖ This was first started in 2010 by the International Maritime Organization (IMO).
- ❖ This year marks the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL),
- ❖ Theme for 2023 is 'MARPOL at 50 – Our commitment goes on'.



MISCELLANEOUS

Prehistoric rock paintings – Guntur



- ❖ A Mesolithic period rock painting depicting a person tilling a piece of land has been found in Orvakallu village in Guntur district, Andhra Pradesh.



- ❖ Among the five naturally formed caves, two are embellished with distinguished depictions of rock paintings on the back walls and ceilings.
- ❖ These were executed by people of Mesolithic Age, roughly [from] 5000 BC.

