

March - 04

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ 'National Protein Day' is celebrated every year on 27 February in the country from 2020.
- ❖ Two Australian universities, Wollongong and Deakin, will be setting up their campuses in GIFT city, Gujarat.
 - These will be the first foreign education institutions to set up campuses in India.
- ❖ Indian Air force's Eastern Command has commenced its annual Command level combat readiness exercise Ex - POORVI AKASH in the North East region of the country.
 - The Shillong-headquartered Eastern Air Command was carrying out the exercise.
- ❖ Racewalkers Priyanka Goswami and Akshdeep Singh won National Race-Walking Championships and qualified for the 2023 World Athletics Championships and 2024 Paris Olympics.

NATIONAL

Hindusthan Samachar



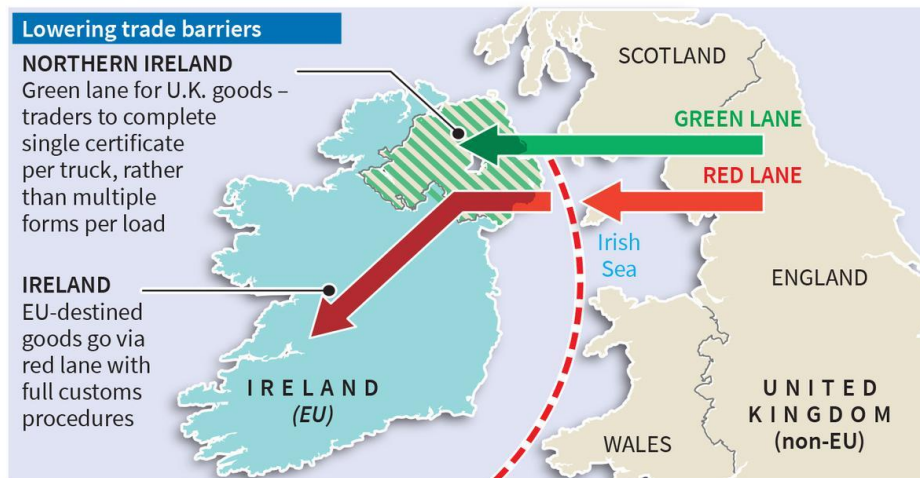
- ❖ Public broadcaster Prasar Bharati has signed a two-year contract with Hindusthan Samachar (HS) to supply news feed for Doordarshan and All India Radio (AIR).
- ❖ It is expected to provide 100 news stories every day to Prasar Bharati, which would include 10 national stories and 40 "local" ones in regional languages.

- ❖ Prasar Bharati cancelled its subscription to Press Trust of India (PTI), the nonprofit cooperative of Indian newspapers in 2020.
- ❖ Hindusthan Samachar was founded in 1948 by Shivram Shankar Apte, along with M.S. Golwalkar.

INTERNATIONAL

Windsor framework

- ❖ The UK government under Prime Minister Rishi Sunak reached a landmark deal with the European Union (EU).
- ❖ This will aid on post-Brexit trade rules that will govern Northern Ireland.
- ❖ The 'Windsor Framework' will replace the Northern Ireland Protocol.
- ❖ It had proved to be among the thorniest of Brexit fall-outs, creating problems both economic and political.
- ❖ The new framework has two crucial aspects – the introduction of a green lane and red lane system for goods that will stay in Northern Ireland and those that will go to the EU respectively.
- ❖ It also aimed at protecting Northern Ireland's position within the U.K., and restoring its people's sovereignty.

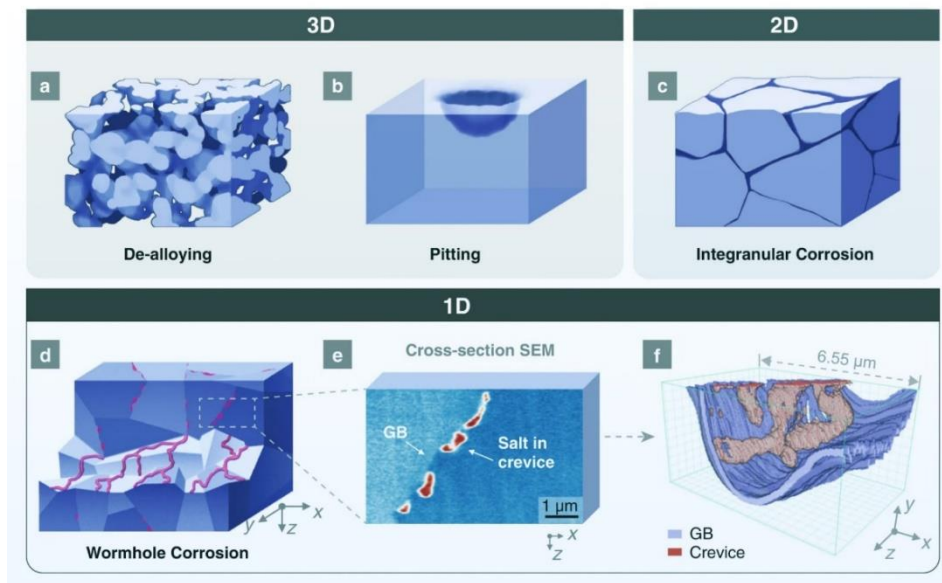


SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1D Wormhole Corrosion

- ❖ Scientists have recently discovered a new form of corrosion known as the 1D wormhole corrosion.

- ❖ The 1D wormhole corrosion is a highly localized form of penetrating corrosion that occurs in a nickel-chromium alloy when exposed to molten fluoride salt.
- ❖ This type of corrosion leads to the development of a percolating network of tunnels along grain boundaries.
- ❖ These tunnels are filled with molten salt and leave voids along the grain boundaries.
- ❖ It has important implications for the understanding of material degradation mechanisms in molten salt environments.
- ❖ Molten salts are a key candidate for coolants in next-generation nuclear power plants.
- ❖ The use of molten salts as coolants is particularly attractive because they have a high thermal conductivity and a high boiling point.
- ❖ This makes them ideal for transferring heat away from the reactor core and for generating electricity.

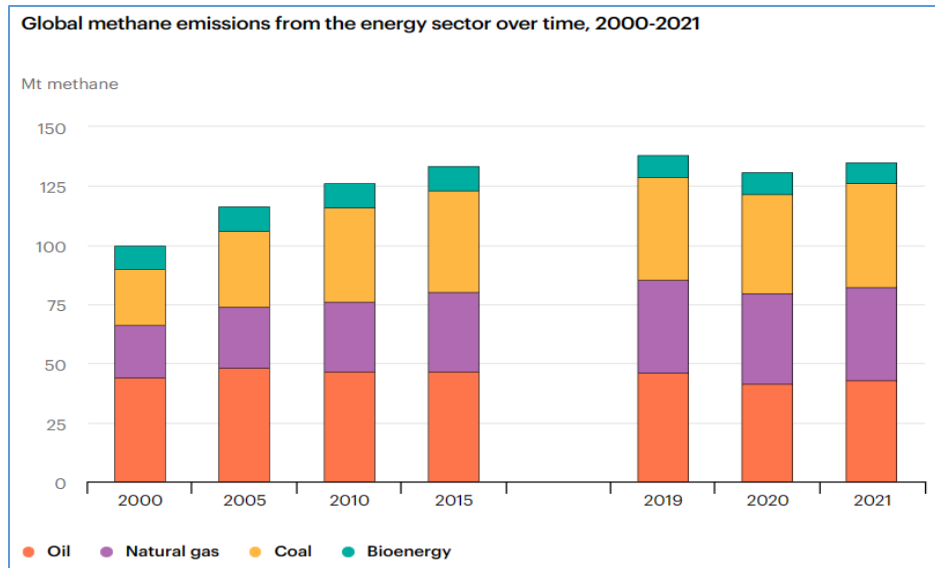


ENVIRONMENT

Methane Global Tracker Report

- ❖ International Energy Agency (IEA) released its annual Methane Global Tracker report.
- ❖ As per the report, the fossil fuel companies emitted 120 million metric tonnes of methane into the atmosphere in 2022.
- ❖ This is only slightly below the record highs seen in 2019.

- ❖ The best performing countries are more than 100 times better than the worst.
- ❖ Norway and the Netherlands have the lowest emissions intensities.
- ❖ Countries in the Middle East such as Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates also have relatively low emissions intensities.
- ❖ Turkmenistan and Venezuela have the highest emissions.
- ❖ 75 per cent of methane emissions from the energy sector can be reduced with the help of cheap and readily available technology.
- ❖ The energy sector accounts for around 40 per cent of the total average methane emissions from human activity.
- ❖ Oil and natural gas companies are known to release methane into the atmosphere when natural gas is flared or vented.
- ❖ Methane is a greenhouse gas, which is responsible for 30 per cent of the warming since preindustrial times, second only to carbon dioxide.



STATES

Bird's eye chilly export to US

- ❖ Mizoram would soon export 'bird's eye chilli' of the state to the United States for the first time.
- ❖ The Government has obtained geographical identification (GI) tag for bird's eye chilli or 'Mizo chilli'.
- ❖ The chilli is to be exported has passed an organic confirmation test in Bangalore last week.



- ❖ The chillies are highly pungent.
- ❖ The Scoville Heat Units (SCU) of spiciness is 50,000 to 1,00,000.
- ❖ The higher the SCU are the greater their spiciness.
- ❖ They are widely grown in Cambodia, Vietnam, Thailand, etc.



IMPORTANT DAYS

Zero Discrimination Day - March 01



- ❖ In order to promote equality and justice, the United Nations and other international organizations marked this day.
- ❖ The goal is to fight structural and cultural prejudice against those who have HIV/AIDS and to advance equality and fairness before the law.

- ❖ The UNAIDS aims to raise awareness about discriminatory laws and practices that rob individuals of their dignity
- ❖ The theme for Zero Discrimination Day for this year is "Save lives: Decriminalize."

World Civil Defence Day - March 01

- ❖ It aims to raise awareness about the importance of civil defence measures in protecting people and their property from natural disasters, accidents, and other emergencies.
- ❖ The day honours the work of several civil defence organisations.
- ❖ The day also recognises the efforts put in by the organisations in protecting communities and saving lives.
- ❖ This Day was first celebrated in the year 1990 by the International Civil Defence Organisation (ICDO).
- ❖ The theme for this year is "The role of information technology in risk assessment".



World Seagrass Day - March 01

- ❖ This is a day of awareness and celebration of the role seagrass plays in creating healthier oceans, coastlines and its role as a climate solution.
- ❖ It serves to highlight the importance of protecting seagrass ecosystems and increasing their resilience to challenges such as climate change, pollution and other human impacts.
- ❖ Seagrasses are the only marine flowering plants and are found in shallow waters from the tropics to the Arctic Circle.

- ❖ There are more than 60 seagrass species in the world.
- ❖ It was covering over 300,000 square kilometres of the ocean floor.
- ❖ It is referred as a type of “blue forest” - supply food and shelter to thousands of species of fish, seahorses, turtles, and other marine animals.
- ❖ IUCN categorizes nearly 21% of the world’s seagrasses as near threatened or vulnerable or endangered.
- ❖ It was established by the UN General Assembly in a resolution adopted in May 2022.

