

March - 21

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The second Meeting of the Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion (GPII) under G20 India Presidency took place in Hyderabad.
- ❖ The 146th Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Assembly held in Bahrain, Saudi Arabia.
 - The theme of the event is “Promoting peaceful coexistence and inclusive societies: Fighting intolerance.”

NATIONAL

ATL Sarthi



- ❖ Atal Innovation Mission launched ATL Sarthi initiative.
- ❖ It is a comprehensive self-monitoring framework to strengthen the ever-growing ecosystem of Atal Tinkering Labs (ATL).

- ❖ Sarthi is a charioteer and ATL Sarthi will enable the ATLs to be efficient and effective.
- ❖ In the first phase, AIM has provided funding for 10,000 schools to open Atal Tinkering Laboratories (ATLs).
- ❖ The Atal Innovation Mission was initiated by the NITI Aayog in 2016 to promote innovation and entrepreneurship across the country.

INTERNATIONAL

Doha Political Declaration

- ❖ The Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries LDC5 conference held under the theme “From Potential to Prosperity” at Qatar.
- ❖ The LDC5 concluded with adoption of the ‘Doha Political Declaration’ by the world leaders.
- ❖ The 10-year plan to put the world’s 46 most vulnerable countries back on track to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).
- ❖ In the last decade, debt service costs in LDCs have jumped to over 20 per cent from around 5 per cent in 2011.



Gender self-determination law

- ❖ Spanish lawmakers approved a transgender law letting anyone 16 and older change the gender on their ID card.
- ❖ In Europe, Denmark was the first country to grant such a right in 2014.

- ❖ This law recognises the right of trans people to self-determine their gender identity, it depathologises trans people.



Australia - Anniversary of Stolen Generation Apology



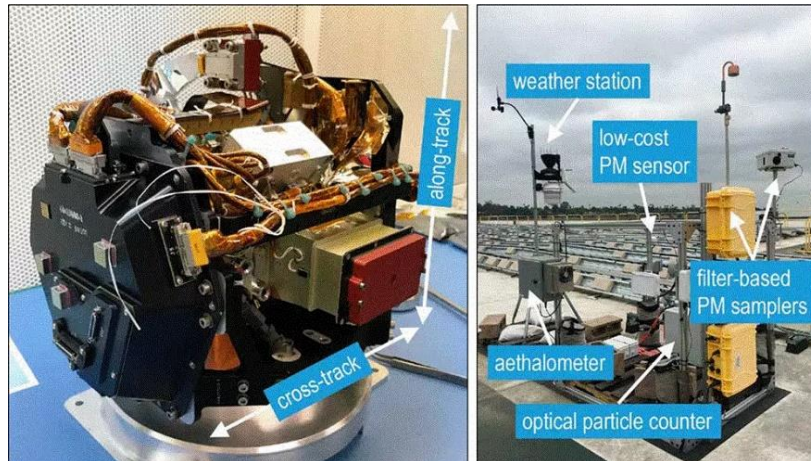
- ❖ As many as one in three Indigenous children were removed from their families between 1910 and the 1970s in a bid to assimilate them into white society.
- ❖ In 1995, the Human Rights Commission of Australia launched a nationwide investigation and collected more than 1000s of stolen generation children.
- ❖ In 1997, “Bringing them Home” was launched.

- ❖ In 2008, former Prime Minister of Australia Kevin Rudd formally apologized to the indigenous people of Australia.
- ❖ In 2023, the Australian Government is marking the 15th Anniversary of Stolen Generation Apology.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Multi-Angle Imager for Aerosols (MAIA)

- ❖ NASA will be partnering with the Italian Space Agency ASI to build and launch MAIA, or the Multi-Angle Imager for Aerosols missions.
- ❖ The joint mission will investigate the health impacts of air pollution in the world's most populated cities.
- ❖ The MAIA observatory will consist of the PLATiNO-2 satellite.
- ❖ It will collect and analyse data from the observatory, sensors on the ground and atmospheric models.



ENVIRONMENT

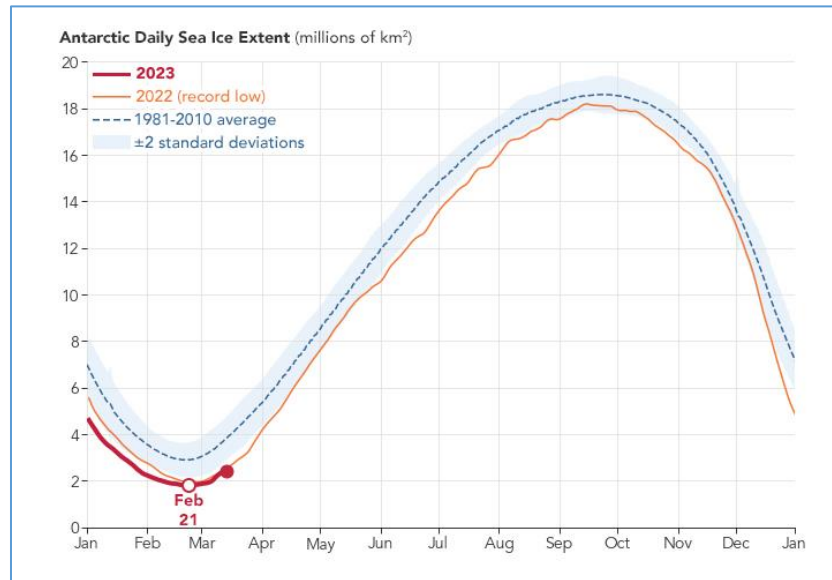
“Don’t Choose Extinction” climate campaign

- ❖ The ‘Don’t Choose Extinction’ campaign was launched by the UN Development Program (UNDP) to raise awareness about the climate emergency.
- ❖ It has won Gold and Silver in two different categories at the 2nd Annual Anthem Awards.
- ❖ This was announced by the International Academy of Digital Arts & Science (IADAS).

- ❖ The Awards are intended to celebrate mission-driven work and the social impact of individuals, corporations and organizations.
- ❖ Its goal is to define a new benchmark for impactful work that inspires others to take action in their communities.



Antarctic sea ice cover 2023

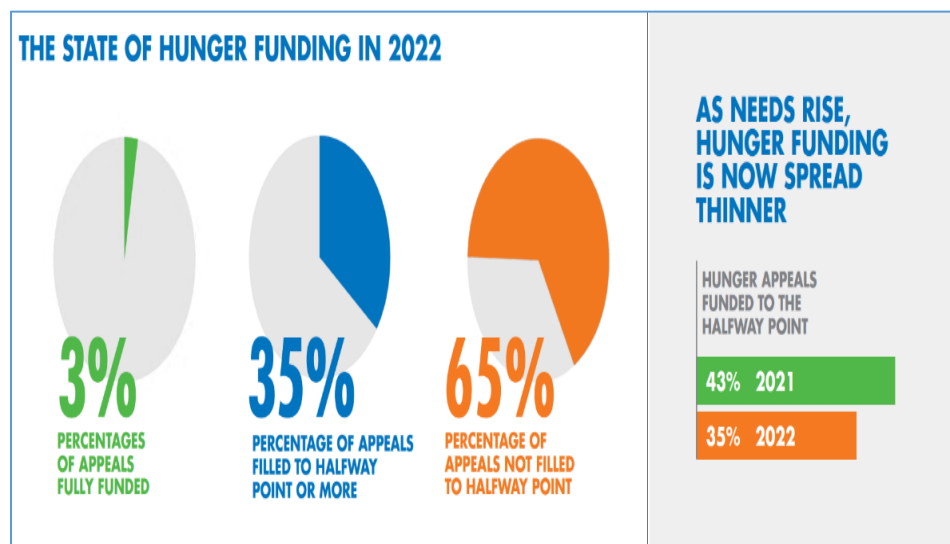


- ❖ In February 2023, sea ice around Antarctica reached the lowest extent ever observed since the start of the satellite record in 1979.
- ❖ The figures were published by the US-based National Snow and Ice Data Centre (NSIDC).

- ❖ Sea ice around Antarctica reached its lowest extent on February 21, 2023, at 1.79 million square Km (691,000 square miles).
- ❖ It is 130,000 square kilometres (50,000 square miles) below the previous record-low reached on February 25, 2022.
- ❖ It marks the second time that scientists observed the ice shrinking below 2 million square kilometers.

REPORTS AND INDICES

Hunger Funding Gap Report 2023

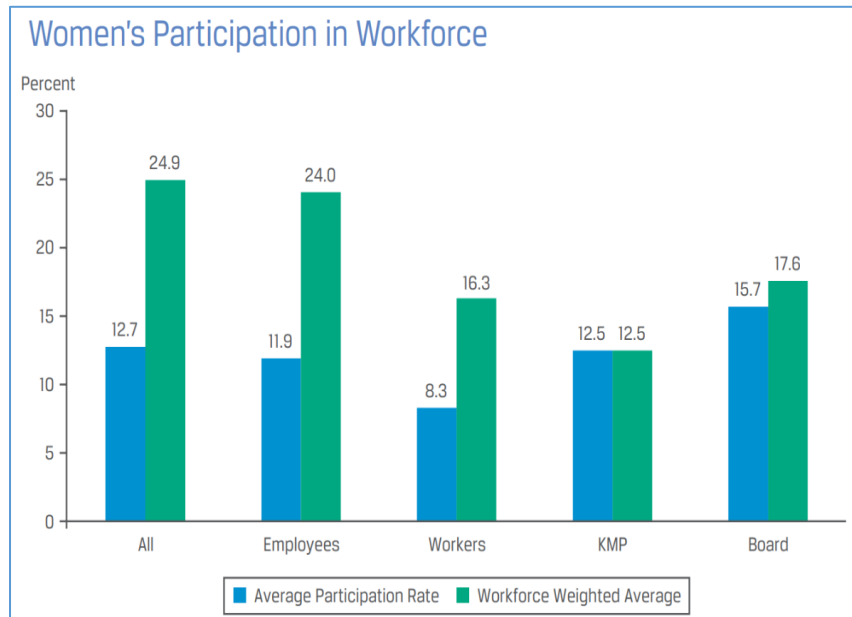


- ❖ A report titled “2023 Hunger Funding Gap Report: What’s Needed to Stop the Global Hunger Crisis” was released recently by Action Against Hunger.
- ❖ According to this report, countries facing intense hunger crises received lesser hunger funding than the countries that have comparatively lesser hunger crises.
- ❖ The report noted a hunger funding gap of 53%. In 2022.
- ❖ Only 3 per cent of hunger programme needs were fully funded.
- ❖ Around 65 per cent of appeals were not fulfilled even to a halfway point.
- ❖ 47% of the global hunger needs are met through UN funds.
- ❖ Thus, the Hunger Funding Gap stands at 53%.
- ❖ 828 million people were affected by hunger in 2021.
- ❖ This is 46 million people more than the year earlier and 150 million more from 2019.
- ❖ It requires 4 billion USD to stop the hunger crisis in the world.

- ❖ Mozambique and Kenya received 32% higher funding than Afghanistan and Haiti.

Mind the Gender Gap Report

- ❖ The report titled “Mind the Gender Gap” was released recently by the CFA Institute.
- ❖ Women’s participation rate in finance and related sectors are low in India.
- ❖ The average female participation rate across companies in our sample was 12.7%.
- ❖ Among sectors, IT companies had the highest female participation rates, at 30%, followed by financial services (22.4%).
- ❖ Only 15.9 per cent are employed in key managerial positions.
- ❖ The ratio of women to men was 0.97.
- ❖ It drops down to 0.52 for key management personnel and around 0.64 for directors.
- ❖ 69% had no women working in their companies.

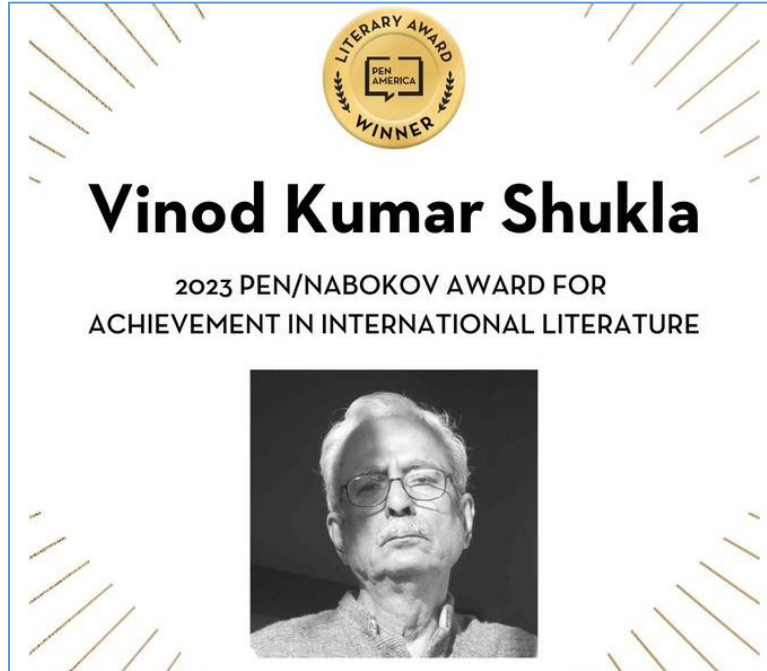


PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

PEN/Nabokov Lifetime Achievement Award

- ❖ Vinod Kumar Shukla of India, has won the PEN America award for lifetime achievement in literature.
- ❖ This is one of the most coveted literary prizes worldwide.

- ❖ He composed acclaimed novels like *Naukar Ki Kameez* (1979) and poetry collections like *Sab Kuch Hona Bacha Rahega* (1992).
- ❖ The award was founded in 2016 by Pen America in collaboration with the Vladimir Nabokov Literary Foundation.



Laureate of the Pritzker Architecture Prize 2023



- ❖ Urban planner and activist, Sir David Alan Chipperfield of British has been selected as the 2023 Laureate of The Pritzker Architecture Prize.
- ❖ It is widely regarded as architecture's highest honour.



- ❖ Chipperfield's storied career spans more than 40 years and includes 100-plus projects, ranging from civic, cultural, and academic buildings.

