

March - 29

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled the Bharat 6G Vision Document and launched the 6G research and development test bed.
- ❖ Hindustan Zinc company has bagged the GreenCo Silver rating by CII (Confederation of Indian Industry) for its sustainable mining operations.
- ❖ Six persons from India including Shiv Sena leader Aaditya Thackeray and BJP Yuva Morcha vice-president Madhukeshwar Desai were named among the Young Global Leaders for 2023 by the World Economic Forum.

NATIONAL

GST Appellate Tribunal




- ❖ Lok Sabha cleared changes in the Finance Bill to pave the way for setting up of an appellate tribunal for resolution of disputes under GST.
- ❖ As per the amendments, benches of the GST Appellate Tribunal would be set up in every state.
- ❖ This bench will include two judicial members, and two technical members representing the Centre and state.
- ❖ There will be a principal bench in Delhi.
- ❖ Principal bench will consist of a president, a judicial member and two technical members representing the Centre and state.

- ❖ Currently, taxpayers are filing writ petitions before high courts in the absence of the appellate tribunal.

Disqualification of Rahul Gandhi as MP

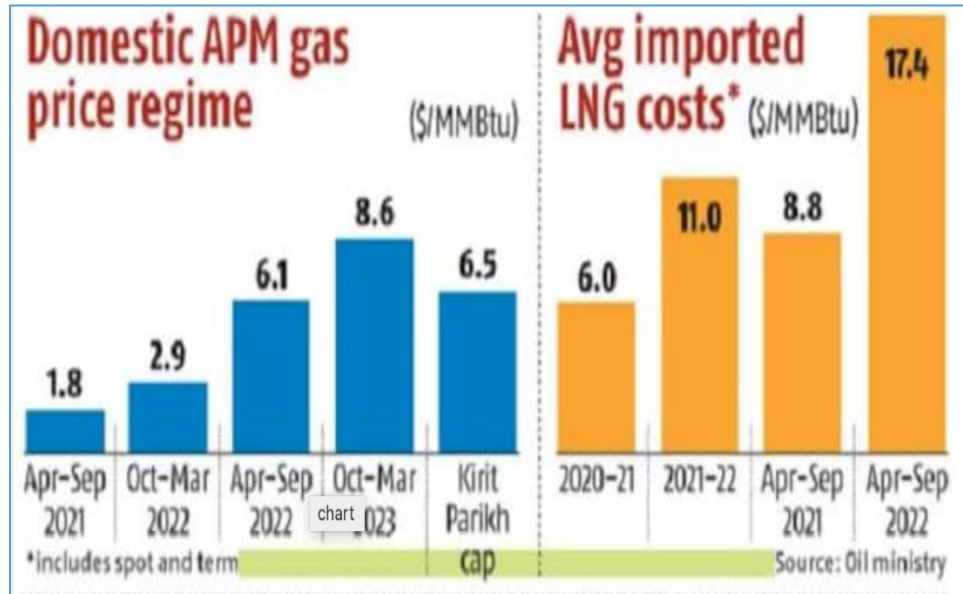
- ❖ Wayanad MP Rahul Gandhi's membership of Parliament has been cancelled following his conviction and 2 years sentencing by a local court in Surat.
- ❖ This disqualification made under in terms of the provisions of Article 102(1)(e) of the Constitution of India read with "Section 8 of the Representation of the People Act (RP), 1951".
- ❖ Section 8(3) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 states that "a person convicted of any offence and sentenced to imprisonment for not less than two years shall be disqualified from the date of such conviction and shall continue to be disqualified for a further period of six years since his release."
- ❖ Article 102 of the Constitution deals with grounds for disqualification of a parliamentarian.
- ❖ Sub-clause (e) of Article 102(1) says an MP will lose his membership of the House "if he is so disqualified by or under any law made by Parliament".
- ❖ The law in this case is the RP Act.

MAY ALSO HAVE TO VACATE TUGHLAQ LANE BUNGALOW	
<p>➤ Section 8(3) of RP Act mandates disqualification of any lawmaker who is 'convicted of any offence and sentenced to imprisonment for not less than 2 years'</p> <p>➤ Sec 8(4) of Representation of People Act, 1951 states that disqualification takes effect only 'after 3 months have elapsed' from date of conviction. In 2013 ruling in 'Lily Thomas v Union of India', SC struck it down as unconstitutional and declared that MP/MLA would stand disqualified immediately</p> <p>➤ In 2018 'Lok Prahari v Union of India' order, SC said disqualification 'will not operate from date of stay of conviction by appellate court'</p> <p>➤ Rahul may have to vacate 12, Tughlaq Lane house in a month if he</p>	<p>doesn't get relief from higher court</p> <p>➤ Abhishek Manu Singhvi cites Lok Prahari judgment, says there's no automatic disqualification as Article 103 of Constitution states that only President has power to disqualify after taking EC's advice</p> <p>➤ Citing Section 8 of RP Act, an expert says disqualification from contesting polls will be for 8 years – 2-year jail and 6 from date of release</p> <p>➤ Gandhi second LS member, after Lakshadweep MP P P Mohammed Faisal of NCP, to be disqualified following conviction. Kerala HC suspended Faisal's conviction and sentence but LS Secretariat is yet to revoke his disqualification</p> <p>➤ RJD chief Lalu Prasad Yadav was disqualified in 2013 after conviction</p>
<p>Consequent upon his conviction by the court of Chief Judicial Magistrate, Surat... Rahul Gandhi, Lok Sabha MP representing Wayanad parliamentary constituency of Kerala, stands disqualified from the membership of the lower house from the date of his conviction, ie 23 March, 2023</p> <p>—LS Secretariat</p>	 <p>Rahul Gandhi attended Lok Sabha's morning session and a meeting of Congress MPs</p> <p>I am fighting for the voice of India, I am ready to pay any cost</p> <p>—Rahul Gandhi</p>

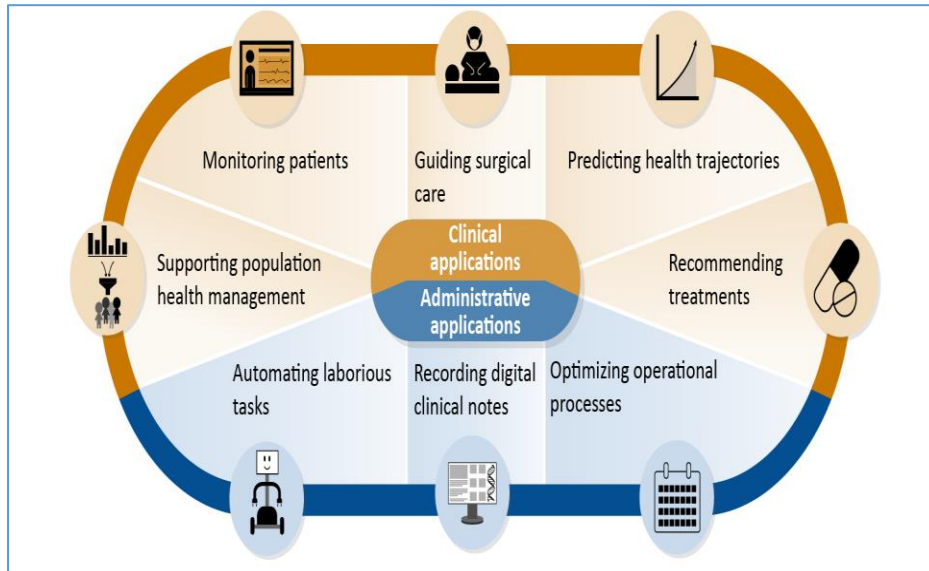
Kirit Parikh panel recommendations

- ❖ The Kirit Parikh panel was set up 2022 September to review the gas pricing formula for gas produced in the country
- ❖ The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas seek cabinet approval on the recommendations of the Kirit Parikh committee report.
- ❖ This report was suggesting fair price of natural gas to the end-consumer.

- ❖ The pricing of natural gas is revised bi-annually.



AI use in the health sector



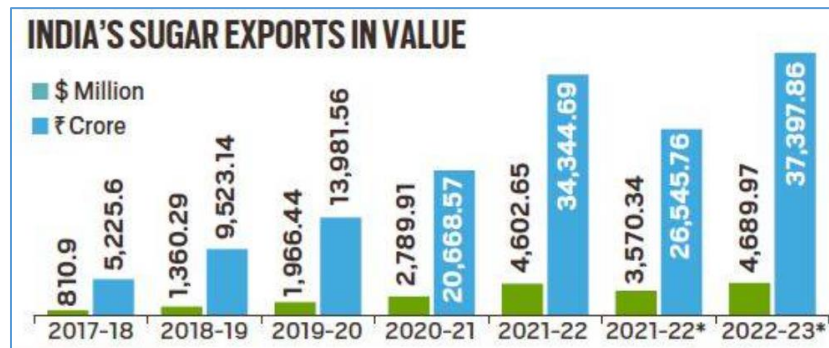
- ❖ The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has released the country's first Ethical Guidelines for Application of Artificial Intelligence in Biomedical Research and Healthcare.
- ❖ It is aimed at creating “an ethics framework which can assist in the development, deployment, and adoption of AI-based solutions.

- ❖ This document is intended for all stakeholders involved in research on AI in biomedical research and healthcare, including creators, developers, researchers, clinicians, ethics committees, institutions, sponsors, and funding organizations.
- ❖ As per the guidelines, the ethical review process for AI in health comes under the domain of the ethics committee.

ECONOMY

India's sugar shipments

- ❖ Sugar exports from India Between 2017-18 and 2021-22 have soared from \$810.9 million to \$4.6 billion.
- ❖ During the 2016-17 and 2017-18 sugar years (Oct-Sept), India's shipments were a mere 0.46 lakh tonnes (lt) and 6.2 lt respectively.
- ❖ They had zoomed to 110 lt by 2021-22.
- ❖ The biggest importers of Indian raw sugar were Indonesia (16.73 lt), Bangladesh (12.10lt), Saudi Arabia (6.83 lt), Iraq (4.78 lt) and Malaysia (4.15 lt).
- ❖ India has become the world's No. 2, next only to Brazil (255.40 lt).

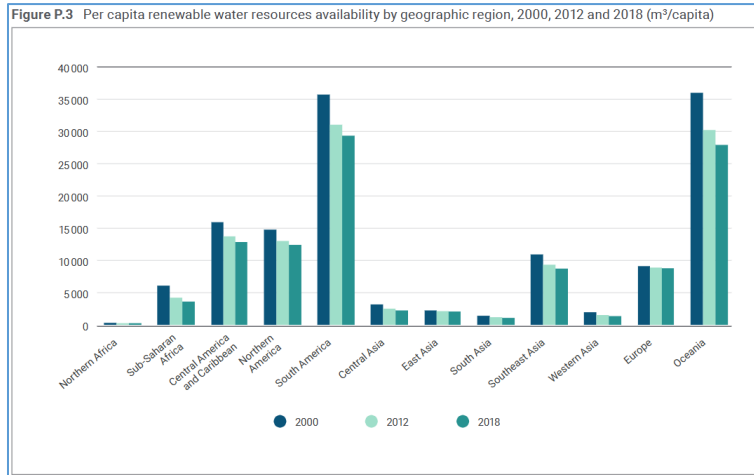


REPORTS AND INDICES

UN Water Development Report 2023

- ❖ On the eve of World Water Day, UN World Water Development Report 2023 was released.
- ❖ India is expected to be the most severely affected country by water scarcity by 2050.
- ❖ About 80% of the people living under water pressure are in Asia, especially northeast China, India and Pakistan.
- ❖ 26 per cent of the world's population do not have access to safe drinking water

- ❖ And 46 per cent lack access to basic sanitation.
- ❖ On average, “10% of the global population lives in countries with high or critical water stress”.
- ❖ Up to 3.5 billion people live under conditions of water stress at least one month a year.
- ❖ Globally, 80% of wastewater is released to the environment without any treatment



STATES

Bihar Diwas - March 22



- ❖ Bihar came into existence on March 22, 1912.

- ❖ Earlier, Bihar and Bengal provinces were the same.
- ❖ Bihar and Bengal were divided in 1912.
- ❖ Odisha was separated from Bihar in the partition of 1936.
- ❖ The third partition took place in 2000 when Jharkhand became a separate state.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Ramnath Goenka Awards

- ❖ The awards, every year, celebrate the legacy of the founder of The Indian Express Group, acknowledging and honouring the excellence in journalism.
- ❖ A total of 43 winners from 2019 and 2020- who could not be honoured earlier owing to the pandemic were felicitated this year in New Delhi.



IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of Solidarity with Detained and Missing Staff Members - March 25

- ❖ This day commemorates the abduction of a journalist named Alec Collett, who died while on a UN assignment.
- ❖ The day is observed on March 25 to mark the anniversary of the abduction of Alec Collett.
- ❖ He was a former journalist who worked for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).
- ❖ In 1985, he was abducted by armed gunmen.
- ❖ In 2009, his body was found in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.

- ❖ The resolution to protect the UN's employees was first adopted in 1993 by the Security Council.



International Day of the Unborn Child - March 25

- ❖ The aim of this day is to raise awareness about the value and importance of unborn children and to promote the protection of their rights as it condemns abortions.
- ❖ This day was established in 1999 by the late Pope John Paul II.
- ❖ Theme of this year is: The dignity and value of every child yet-to-be-born.



World Theatre Day - March 27

- ❖ The day has been celebrated since 1962 at the International Theatre Institute.
- ❖ The first ITI conference took place in Finland, Helsinki, and the next session was held in Vienna.
- ❖ This day preserves dramas and their essential role in the theatrical arts.



❖ “Theatre and a Culture of Peace.” is the theme of 2023.

