

March - 30

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The World Trade Center Association (WTCA) and the Merlin Group have partnered to develop a World Trade Center (WTC) in the Nabadiganta Industrial Township Authority (NDITA) area, Salt Lake, Kolkata.
 - This is the first under-construction World Trade Center in eastern India.
- ❖ The Border Roads Organisation opened the strategically important Leh-Manali highway (NH 3) in a record time of 138 days.
 - Last year, it took 144 days for the BRO to open the highway for traffic movement.
- ❖ The UN 2023 Water Conference took place at UN Headquarters in New York.
 - It is co-hosted by the Government of Tajikistan and the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

NATIONAL

Guidelines to Address Human-Wildlife Conflict

- ❖ The Union Ministry for Environment, Forest and Climate Change released 14 guidelines to address Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC).
- ❖ It aims to facilitate a common understanding among key stakeholders, on what constitutes effective and efficient mitigation of HWC in India.
- ❖ The guidelines are advisory in nature, and will facilitate in further development of site-specific HWC mitigation measures.
- ❖ These guidelines are developed under the Indo-German cooperation project on HWC Mitigation.
- ❖ 10 species-specific guidelines
 - Guidelines for Mitigating Human -Elephant, -Gaur, -Leopard, -Snake, -Crocodile, -Rhesus Macaque, -Wild Pig, -Bear, -Blue Bull and -Blackbuck Conflict.
- ❖ 4 guidelines on cross-cutting issues
 - Guidelines for Cooperation between the Forest and Media sector in India: Towards effective communication on Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation
 - Occupational Health and Safety in the Context of Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation

- Crowd Management in Human-Wildlife Conflict Related Situations
- Addressing Health Emergencies and Potential Health Risks Arising Out of Human—Wildlife Conflict Situations: Taking a One Health Approach.

CBuD App

- ❖ The app named 'Call Before u Dig' (CBuD) was launched recently.
- ❖ It is an initiative of the Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications.
- ❖ It is aimed at providing an interface to the excavating agencies where they can enquire about the availability of existing underground utilities before beginning excavation work.
- ❖ It will prevent losses of about Rs 3,000 crore (\$400 million) every year due to damage to underlying assets like optical fibre cables.
- ❖ It will help ensure the safety of the various underlying utility assets such as gas pipelines, water pipelines, and optical fibre cables.

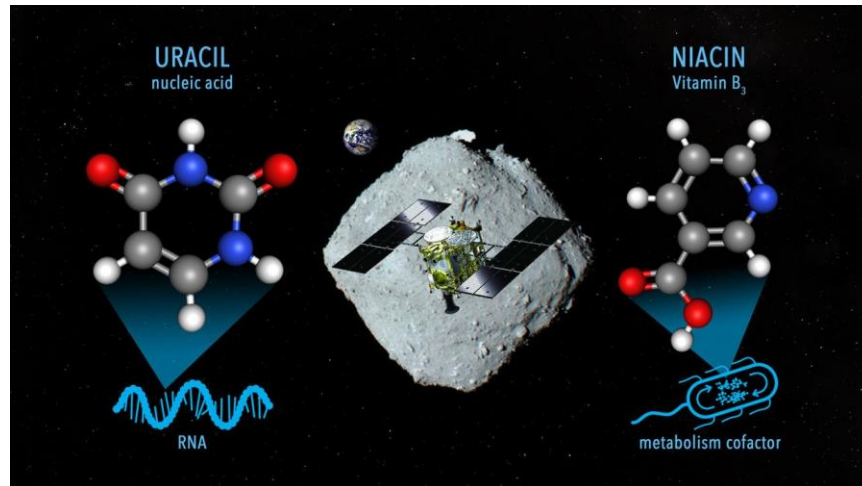


SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Alien vitamins sample

- ❖ The Hayabusa2 spacecraft spent a year and a half gathering rock samples from the asteroid Ryugu.
- ❖ Organic compounds essential for life have been discovered these samples.
- ❖ The compounds discovered include niacin, which is also known as vitamin B3, and uracil.

- ❖ It is one of the four nucleobases (nitrogen-containing compounds), that make up RNA.
- ❖ These molecules contain the instructions of how to build living organisms.
- ❖ Hayabusa2 was launched in December 2014 by the Japanese space agency JAXA.
- ❖ It reached its target, the space rock Ryugu, in June 2018, stayed for a year and a half to gather samples, and returned them to Earth in December 2020.



ENVIRONMENT

Aravalli Green Wall Project

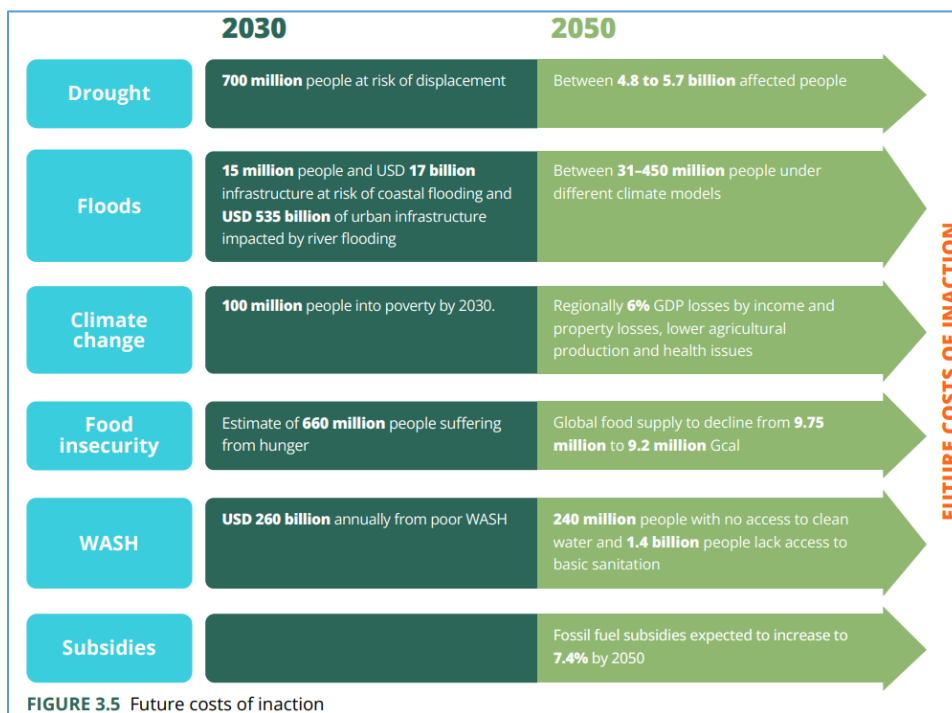
SHIELD AGAINST DESERT	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Forest belt likely to run roughly from Porbandar to Panipat, covering entire Aravalli range and beyond➤ 'Green wall' will act as barrier for dust from west and check eastward march of Thar desert➤ It will check desertification by restoring degraded land through massive afforestation➤ Project yet to get formal nod, details to be worked out
Rough contours of proposed 1,400km 'green wall'	

- ❖ India launched its own green wall project that will, through afforestation, cover roughly 1,400-km long and five-km wide green belt.
- ❖ This will be the buffer around the Aravalli Mountain range.

- ❖ It is covering parts of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana and Delhi.
- ❖ The ambitious project will involve planting native species of trees and shrubs on scrubland, wasteland and degraded forest land.
- ❖ It will preventing eastward expansion of the Thar Desert.
- ❖ The green belt will also act as a barrier for the dust coming from the western side of the country to Delhi-NCR.
- ❖ The five-km buffer zone of the entire Aravalli covers 6.3 million hectares (Mha) of land.

REPORTS AND INDICES

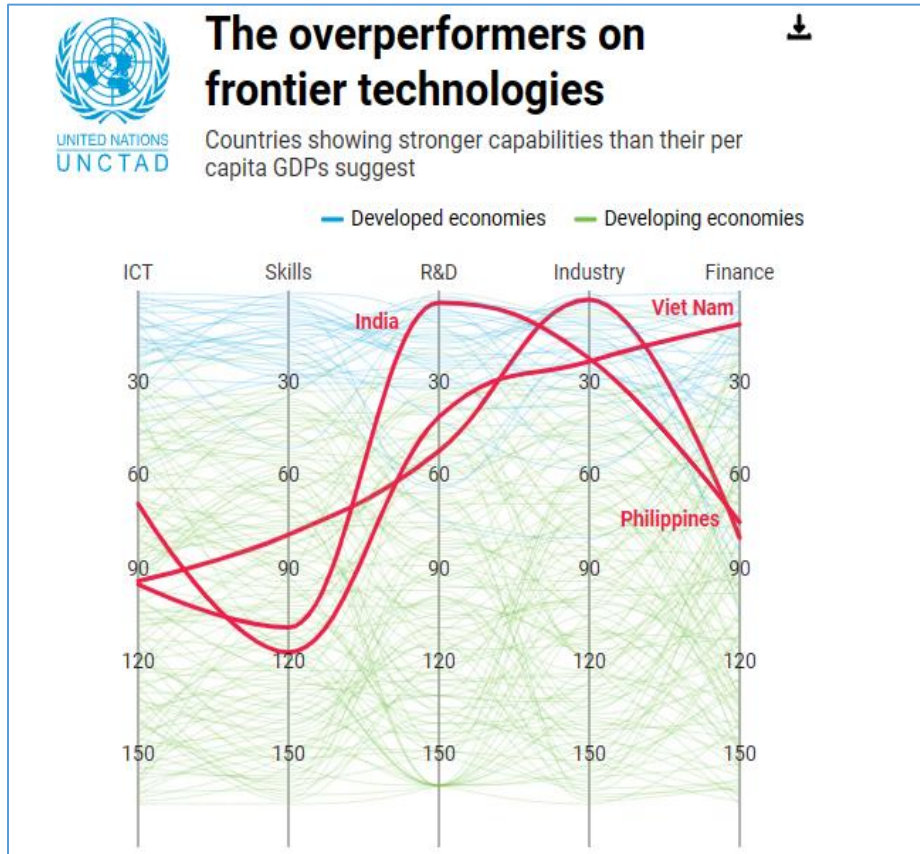
GCEW report on water



- ❖ The report is titled 'The What, Why and How of the World Water Crisis: Global Commission on the Economics of Water Phase 1 Review and Findings' published by the Global Commission on the Economics of Water (GCEW).
- ❖ India will face a reduction of over 16 % in food supply due to water and heat stress in 2050.
- ❖ The report placed China at the top, where food supply would be reduced by 22.4%, followed by South America by 19.4%.
- ❖ Many Asian countries, including China and ASEAN members, who are currently net food exporters, would become net food importers by 2050.

- ❖ The water supply availability in India is between 1100-1197 billion cubic meters (bcm).
- ❖ In contrast, the demand is expected to grow from 550-710 bcm in 2010 to around 900-1,400 bcm in 2050.
- ❖ India ranks 13 globally on the facing water stress in 2019.

Technology and Innovation Report 2023

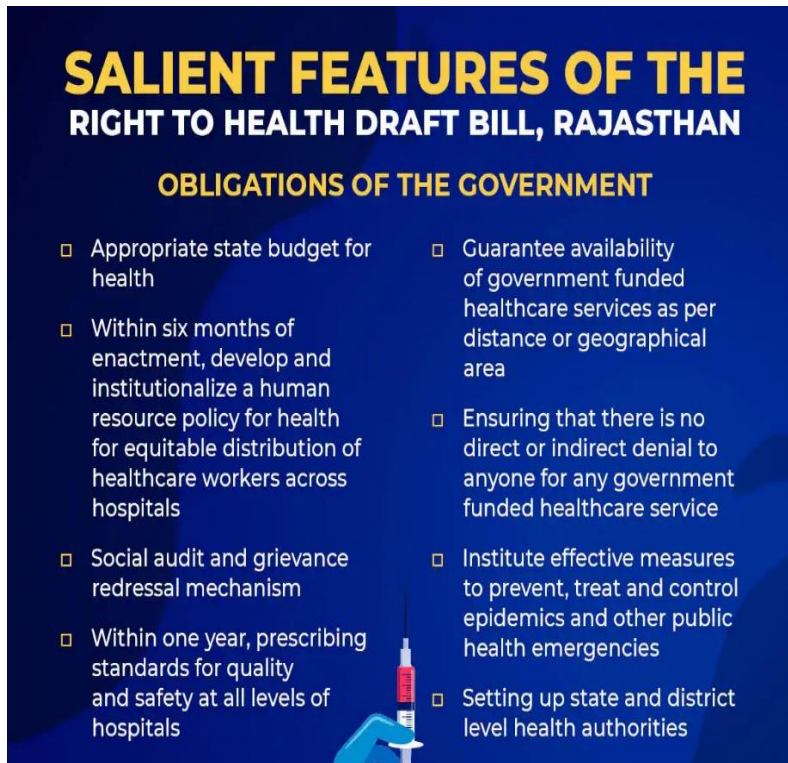


- ❖ This was released by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).
- ❖ The developed countries are benefiting more from green technologies than developing countries, and this could deepen global economic inequality.
- ❖ The green technologies could create a market worth \$9.5 trillion by 2030, up from \$1.5 trillion in 2020.
- ❖ The 'frontier technology readiness index' was included in this year report.
- ❖ As per this, only a few developing countries have the capacity to take advantage of frontier technologies such as blockchain, drones, and solar power.

- ❖ It is dominated by high-income economies, notably the US, Sweden, Singapore, Switzerland, and the Netherlands.
- ❖ Notably Brazil was ranked at 40, the Russian Federation at 31, India at 46, China at 35, and South Africa at 56.

STATES

Right to Health Bill – Rajasthan



**SALIENT FEATURES OF THE
RIGHT TO HEALTH DRAFT BILL, RAJASTHAN**

OBLIGATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT

- ❑ Appropriate state budget for health
- ❑ Within six months of enactment, develop and institutionalize a human resource policy for health for equitable distribution of healthcare workers across hospitals
- ❑ Social audit and grievance redressal mechanism
- ❑ Within one year, prescribing standards for quality and safety at all levels of hospitals
- ❑ Guarantee availability of government funded healthcare services as per distance or geographical area
- ❑ Ensuring that there is no direct or indirect denial to anyone for any government funded healthcare service
- ❑ Institute effective measures to prevent, treat and control epidemics and other public health emergencies
- ❑ Setting up state and district level health authorities

- ❖ The Right to Health (RTH) Bill was passed by the Rajasthan Assembly.
- ❖ It becomes the first Indian State to enact such Act.
- ❖ Under the law, neither government nor private hospitals nor doctors can refuse a person seeking emergency treatment.
- ❖ Emergency treatment would include care in case of accidents, animal or snake bite, complications in pregnancy or an emergency defined by the state health authority.
- ❖ In such a case, a patient will not be required to make an advance deposit, or pre-payment for either treatment or diagnostics even at a private hospital.
- ❖ In case a patient cannot pay for his treatment, the state government will reimburse the hospital for the cost.

- ❖ Patient also gets the right to choose the shop or the lab from where he wants to buy medicines.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Earth Hour 2023 – March 25

- ❖ Earth Hour is a worldwide movement organised by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF).
- ❖ Earth Hour is an annual event that takes place on the last Saturday of March.
- ❖ It encourages individuals, communities and businesses to turn off non-essential electric lights for one hour, from 8:30 pm to 9:30 pm as a symbol of commitment to the planet
- ❖ More than 100 countries across the world participated in Earth Hour.
- ❖ It was first started in Sydney, Australia in 2007.

