

March - 30

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Election Commission has launched Saksham App to facilitate easier voting for Persons with Disabilities and to avail facilities at Polling Stations.
- ❖ The Supreme Court constituted an expert committee to balance the conservation and protection of the endangered Great Indian Bustard bird population with the country's international commitments to promote renewable sources of energy.
 - They have been frequently collided with high-powered power cables running adjacent to its core habitats in Gujarat and Rajasthan.
- ❖ The Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF) is launching four variants of milk in the US market.
 - This is the first time; Amul fresh milk will be available outside India.
- ❖ Virat Kohli became the first Indian batter to complete 12,000 runs in T20 cricket.
- ❖ World Piano Day is observed on the 88th day of the year (28 March) unites piano lovers across the globe as they celebrate the “king of musical instruments.”

NATIONAL

Vote-from-Home



- ❖ ECI has, for the first time in the history of the Lok Sabha elections, extended its ‘vote-from-home’ facility to Persons with Disabilities (PwD) and senior citizens aged 85 and above.

- ❖ This move would allow more than 85 lakh senior citizens and 88.4 lakh persons with disabilities to cast their votes through postal ballots.
- ❖ Form 12D can help you cast your vote from home.
- ❖ As on March 10, 2024, there are 81,87,999 senior citizen electors above 85 years and 2,18,442 electors above 100 years in the country.

Project ANAGRANINF

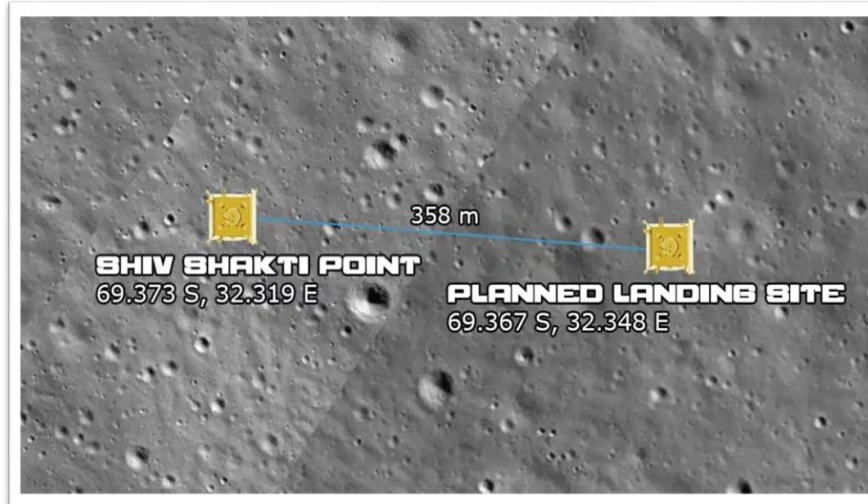
- ❖ The Technology Development Board (TDB) has penned an agreement with M/s Peptris Technologies Pvt. Ltd. and the Foundation for Neglected Disease Research (FNDR) recently.
- ❖ Under the agreement, the Board has sanctioned a grant of ₹75 Lakhs towards the project "ANAGRANINF - Development of a Novel Class of Antibiotics Against Gram-Negative Bacterial-Infections,"
- ❖ It aims to develop a novel lead compound, particularly an antibiotic, adept at inhibiting the FabI enzyme and combatting critical gram-negative pathogens.



Statio Shiv Shakti

- ❖ The International Astronomical Union (IAU) has granted approval for the name 'Statio Shiv Shakti' to designate the landing site of Chandrayaan-3's Vikram lander.
- ❖ It is a compound word from Indian mythology that represents the masculine (Shiva) and feminine (Shakti) duality of nature.
- ❖ India's Chandrayaan-1's moon impact probe (MIP) had impacted on the lunar surface on November 14, 2008.

- ❖ The impact site was named 'Jawahar Point' or 'Jawahar Sthal'.



Bharat Biotech's TB vaccine

FIGHTING TB

- It's claimed to be **world's first Mycobacterium tuberculosis vaccine (MTBVAC)** from a human source
- MTBVAC is considered a **more effective** and **potentially longer-lasting vaccine** than the over 100-year-old BCG
- The **live attenuated vaccine** is meant for **newborns** as well as **adolescents and adults**

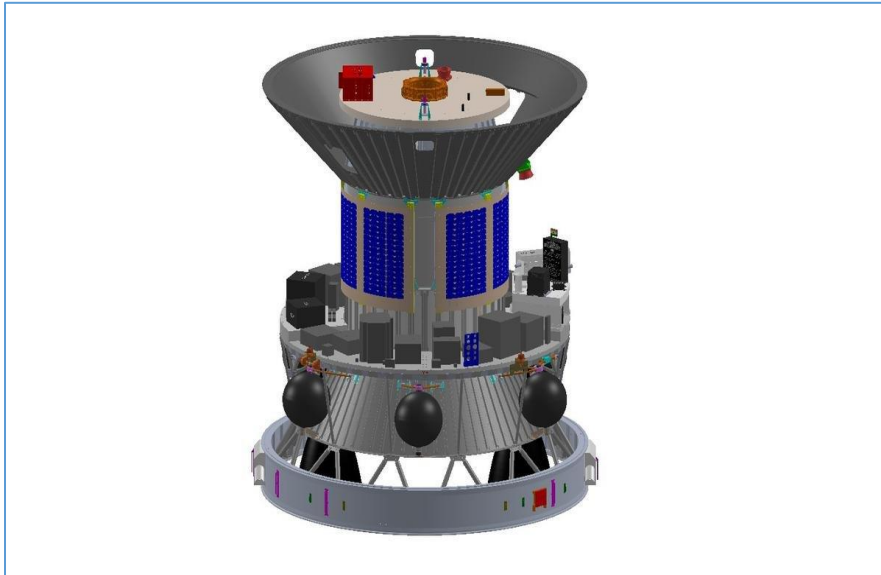
- ❖ Bharat Biotech, based in Hyderabad, has started clinical trials of MTBVAC.
- ❖ This is the world's first Mycobacterium tuberculosis vaccine derived from a human source, in India.

- ❖ It is being developed by Spanish biopharma player Biofabri in collaboration with Bharat Biotech.
- ❖ MTBVAC is being developed as a more effective and potentially longer-lasting vaccine than BCG vaccine, that is over 100 years old.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

POEM-3 mission

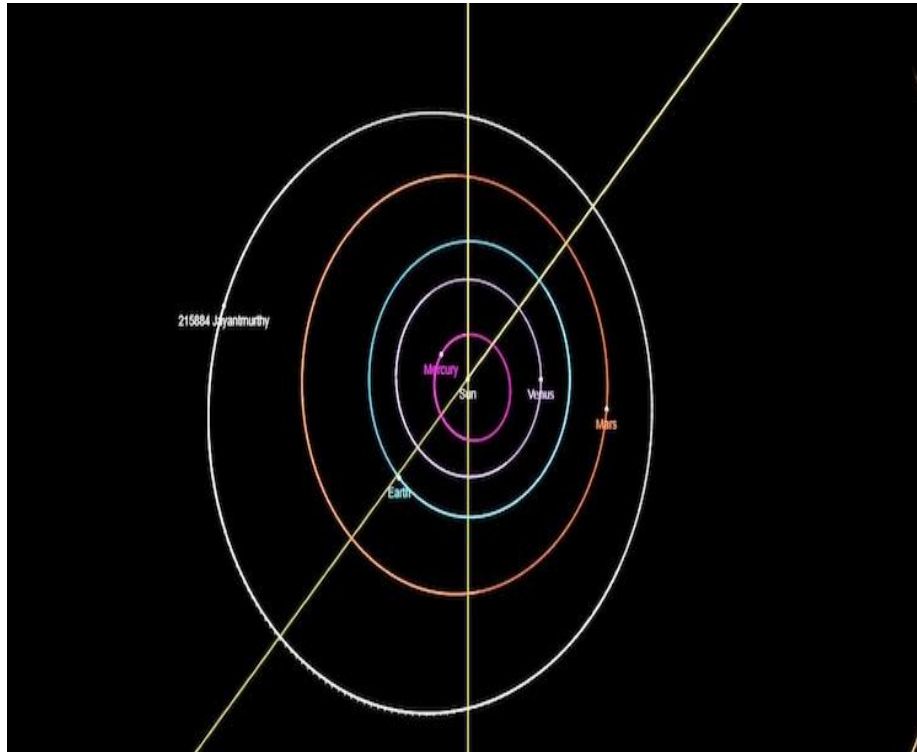
- ❖ ISRO has achieved another milestone as the PSLV Orbital Experimental Module-3 (POEM-3) met its fiery end through a re-entry into the Earth's atmosphere.
- ❖ The PSLV-C58/XPoSat mission has practically left zero debris in orbit.
- ❖ After completing the primary mission of injecting all satellites into their desired orbits, the terminal stage of PSLV was transformed into a 3-axis stabilized platform, the POEM-3.
- ❖ The stage was de-orbited from 650 km to 350 km, which facilitated its early re-entry, and was passivated to remove residual propellants to minimize any accidental break-up risks.



Asteroid 2005 EX296

- ❖ International Astronomical Union (IAU) has named an asteroid after Prof. Jayant Murthy.
- ❖ The asteroid 2005 EX296 has been designated as (215884) Jayant Murthy.

- ❖ The asteroid (215884) goes around the Sun in an orbit that lies between that of Mars and Jupiter once every 3.3 years.
- ❖ International Astronomical Union's Working Group on Small Bodies Nomenclature is the designated body to provide official names to all asteroids, comets and other small objects in the Solar System.



ENVIRONMENT

The COP Presidencies Troika

- ❖ COP28 President Dr. Sultan Al Jaber has addressed global climate leaders and ministers at the Copenhagen Climate Ministerial.
- ❖ He revealed a new historic initiative aimed at strengthening global climate efforts.
- ❖ Al Jaber described the COP Presidencies Troika as a bold initiative aimed at ensuring a consistent approach and continuity between COP28, COP29, and COP30.
- ❖ The COP Presidencies Troika is a major achievement of the UAE Consensus-mandated COP28 presidency, uniting COP28 with the next two COP presidencies, Azerbaijan and Brazil.

- ❖ This Troika will help to ensure that the next crucial round of Nationally Determined Contributions is in line with keeping our collective North Star of 1.5°C within reach.



STATES

India's Oldest Temple



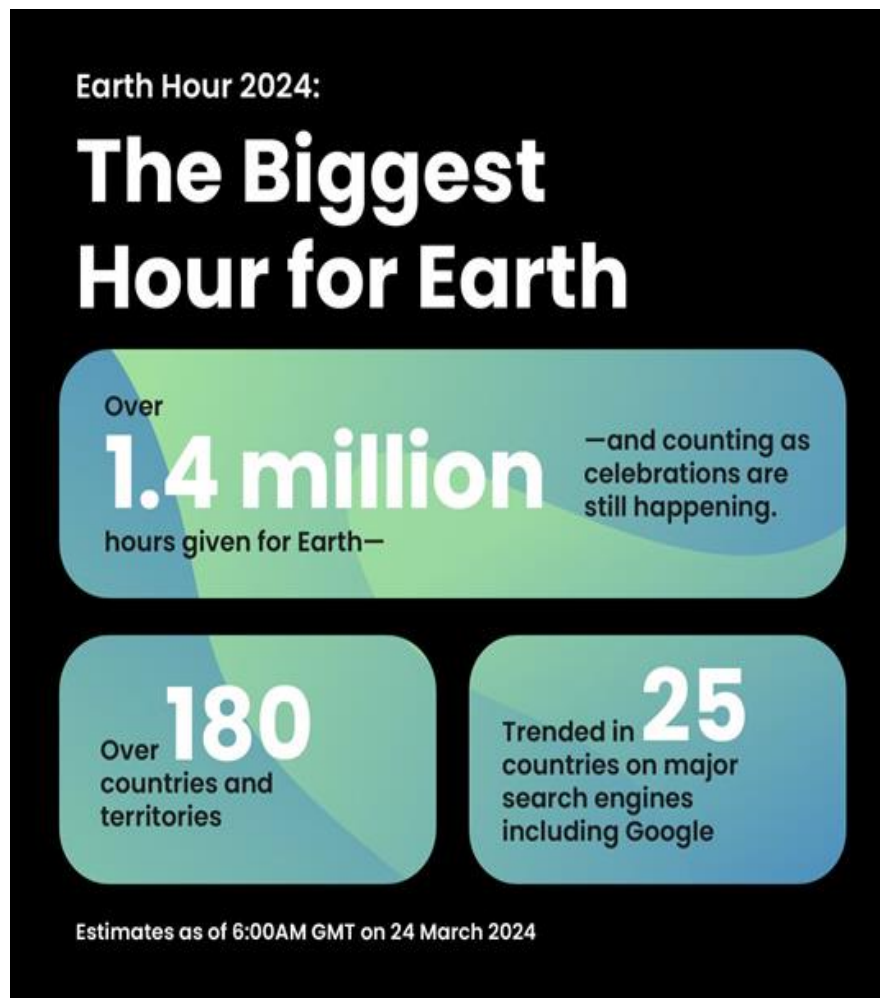
- ❖ Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) is excavating two mounds in Nachne village, Panna district, Madhya Pradesh, to uncover India's potentially oldest temple.



- ❖ The excavation sites are near two ancient temples- a Gupta-era Parvati temple- and close to Chaumukhi temple, built by the Kalachuri Dynasty.
- ❖ Madhya Pradesh boasts several ancient temples, including the 'Sanchi 17' from the Gupta period, dating back to the 5th century CE.
- ❖ This temple is considered the oldest surviving complete temple in India till date.
- ❖ The excavation team hopes to find pre-Gupta-era temples.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Earth Hour 2024 - March 23



- ❖ Earth Day has been held since 2007 on the last Saturday in March.
- ❖ This annual event is organized by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) to raise an awareness about environmental issues.

- ❖ This year marks the 18th edition of Earth Hour, with the theme "Biggest Hour for Earth."
- ❖ The event encourages people worldwide to turn off their lights for 60 minutes from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. as a symbolic gesture of support for our planet.

World Theatre Day 2024 - March 27



- ❖ It aims to raise awareness about the importance of theatre and its contribution to the cultural and social development of societies worldwide.
- ❖ The idea of World Theatre Day was first proposed in 1961 by the International Theatre Institute (ITI).
- ❖ The first World Theatre Day was celebrated on March 27th, 1962.

International Day of Zero Waste 2024 - March 30

- ❖ It highlights both the importance of bolstering waste management globally and the need to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns.
- ❖ Every year, the humanity generates between 2.1 billion and 2.3 billion tonnes of municipal solid waste.
- ❖ Some 2.7 billion people lack access to waste collection, 2 billion of whom live in rural areas.

- ❖ Humanity produces 430 million tons of plastic a year, two-thirds of which are short-lived products that quickly become waste.
- ❖ Without urgent action, the annual municipal solid waste generation will hit 3.8 billion tonnes by 2050.



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