

May - 05

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Indian playback singer Uma Ramanan, who predominantly sang in Tamil passed away recently.
- ❖ Gina Justus, Indian Teacher from UAE, wins Prestigious Cambridge Teacher Award of Sharjah, UAE.

TAMIL NADU

Annual realization of Cauvery water



- ❖ With the current water year 2023-24 coming to an end this month, the overall realisation by the State in the year may end up next to the lowest figure of 69 tmc ft (thousand million cubic feet) during 2016-17 since 1974.
- ❖ As on April 30, the cumulative receipt since June 1, 2023 was about 78.8 tmc ft.
- ❖ This was marginally higher than around 75.6 tmc ft, which was recorded during 2003-04.
- ❖ The current water year will, in all probability, mark the third occasion of Tamil Nadu's annual quota of the Cauvery water not exceeding the 100-tmc ft mark.
- ❖ Since 2000, there were two more years in which Tamil Nadu's annual share crossed the 100-tmc ft by a small margin.
- ❖ In 2012-13, the State got 100.4 tmc ft and in 2002-03, the figure was 109.9 tmc ft.
- ❖ Karnataka's argument on Cauvery water was that the 50-year time period for the 1924 agreement had ended in 1974.

- ❖ As per the agreement in 1924, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry would get 75% of the surplus water, while Karnataka would get 23%.
- ❖ The remaining would go to Kerala.

Temple submerged by Bhavanisagar dam

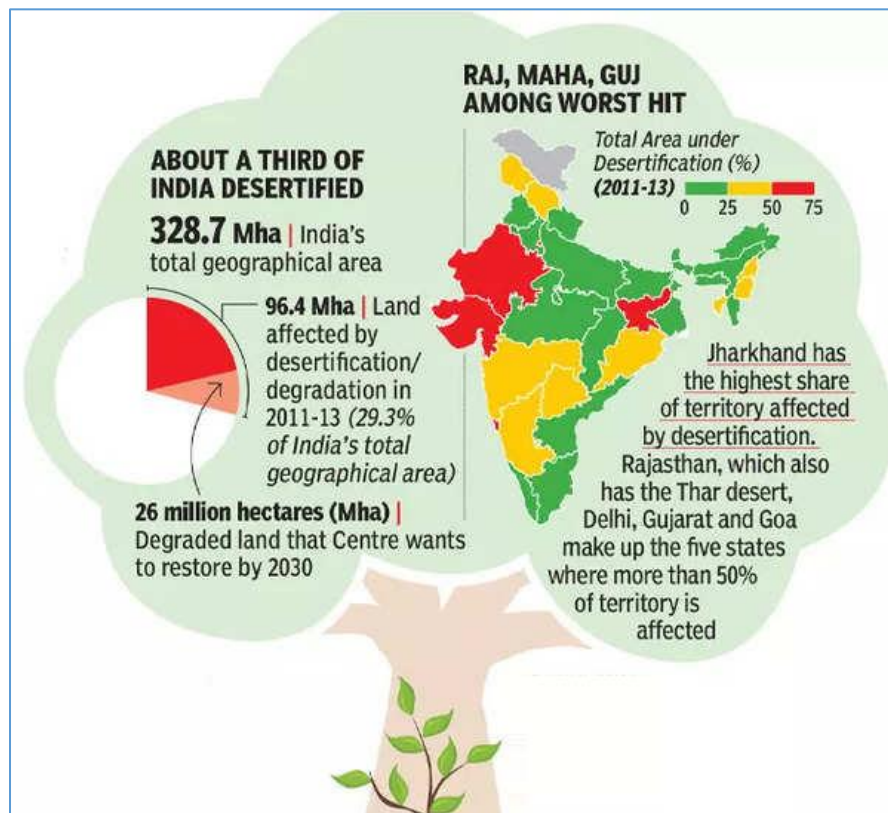
- ❖ A major trade route connecting the Kongu region in western Tamil Nadu with southern Karnataka and Kerala had existed over a 1,000 years ago.
- ❖ This is revealed by the inscriptions found at the Sri Madhava Perumal Temple.
- ❖ This temple has largely remained submerged in the water spread area of the Bhavanisagar dam in Erode district.
- ❖ The temple, in a dilapidated state, is currently visible following the depletion of water level in the dam to less than 46 feet, as against the full reservoir level of 105 feet.
- ❖ 10 to 15 inscriptions, each dating back to various periods, were found.
- ❖ They revealed a village, named Thuravalur, which existed there over 1,000 years ago with a temple for Thondreshwaramudiayar (Lord Shiva).
- ❖ The area served as peruvalli (a trunk road), and traders crossed River Bhavani and River Moyar to reach Wayanad in Kerala and various places in Karnataka.
- ❖ The area came under the Hoysala rulers.
- ❖ King Veera Ballala III (1292-1342), the last great king of the Hoysala Empire, ruled this area.



Lands to Green Credits Program

- ❖ As many as 13 degraded land parcels in Tamil Nadu measuring a total of 263.4 hectares will be restored under the Green Credits Programme (GCP).

- ❖ This program is rolled out by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- ❖ It is a market-based mechanism designed to incentivise voluntary environmental actions across diverse sectors by individuals, communities, private sector industries, and companies.
- ❖ The stakeholders can invest in restoring the degraded land and, in return, receive green credits that can be exchanged for compensatory afforestation when diverting forest land for non-forest purposes.
- ❖ 101 land parcels of 2,448.57 ha were identified and uploaded to the Green Credits registry web portal.
- ❖ Of that, 13 (263.46 ha) have been approved and 19 (150.84) have been rejected.
- ❖ The approved land parcels fall in Tiruvallur, Sivagangai, Dindigul, Erode, Salem, and Dharmapuri.



NATIONAL

India on Kankesanthurai Port

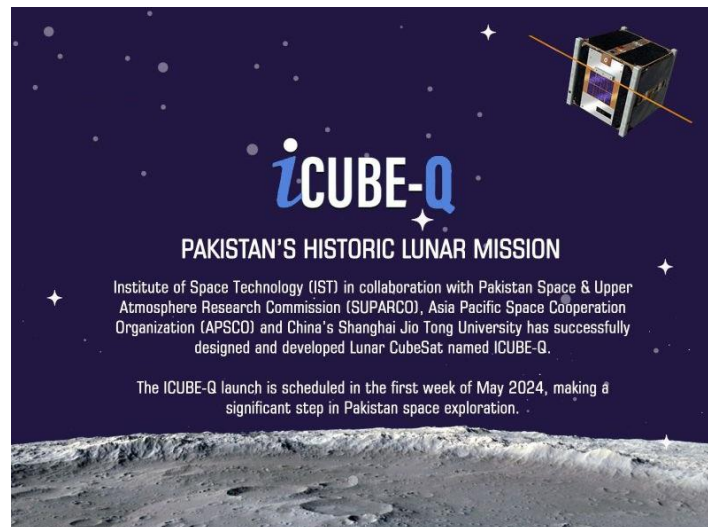
- ❖ The Sri Lankan Cabinet has decided to implement the renovation of the Kankesanthurai Port with India agreeing to grant the entire cost of the project.

- ❖ It is situated in the northern region of Sri Lanka, the Kankesanthurai Port or the KKS Port.
- ❖ The direct passenger ship service connecting Nagapattinam in Tamil Nadu to Kankesanthurai port near Jaffna covers a distance of 111 km (60 nautical miles) in approximately three and a half hours.



INTERNATIONAL

Pakistan's maiden Moon mission



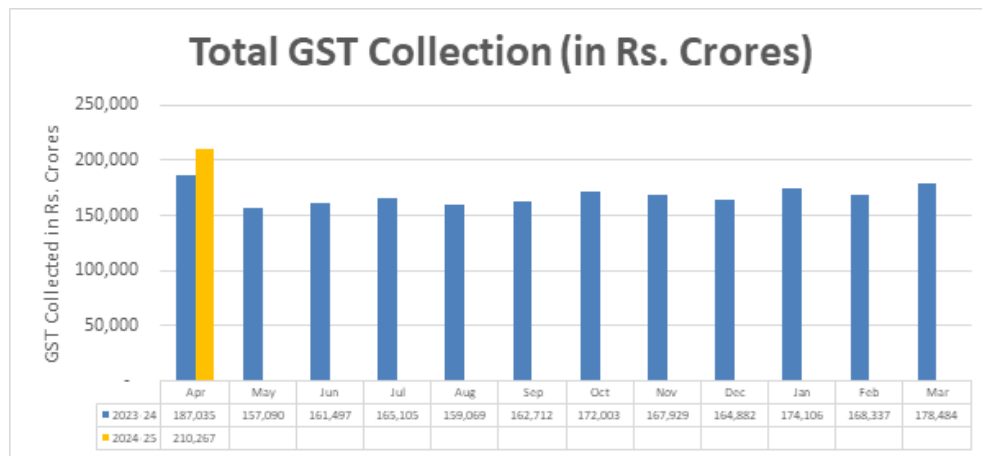
- ❖ Pakistan's lunar mission iCube-Q was launched on board of China's Chang'e 6 lunar probe.
- ❖ The iCube-Q orbiter would carry two optical cameras to capture images of the lunar surface.

- ❖ It has been designed and developed by Pakistan's Institute of Space Technology (IST) in collaboration with China's Shanghai University and Pakistan's national space agency.
- ❖ The Chang'e-6 mission aims to collect soil and rock samples from the far side of the Moon.

ECONOMY

High GST Revenue Collection - April 2024

- ❖ GST collections rose 12.4 per cent to touch a record-high of Rs 2.10 lakh crore in April.
- ❖ The increase was driven mainly by 13.4 per cent year-on-year higher domestic transactions and imports (up 8.3%).
- ❖ This is the highest level of GST collections recorded since the indirect tax reform kicked in almost seven years ago in July 2017.
- ❖ That is the first time that the overall mop-up crossed the Rs 2 lakh crore mark.
- ❖ The previous highest level was registered in April 2023 at Rs 1.87 lakh crore, reflecting year-end sales of March 2023.

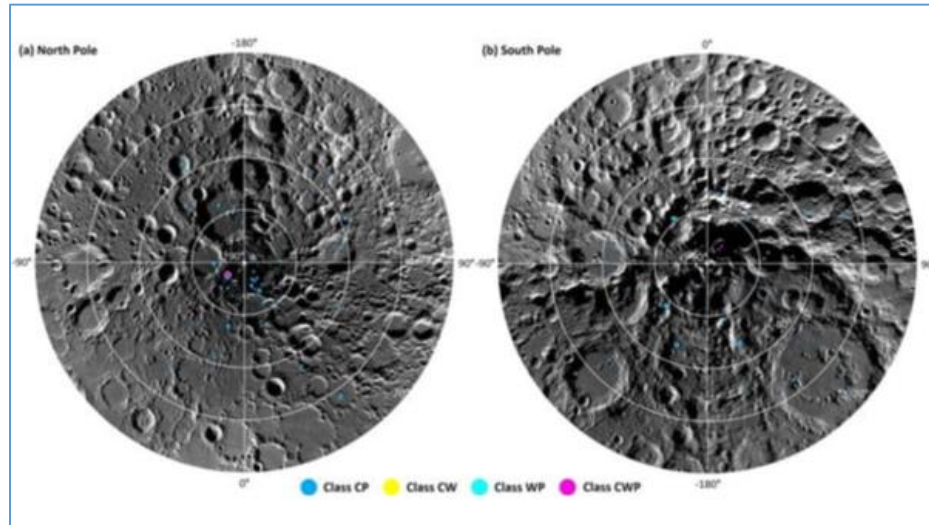


SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

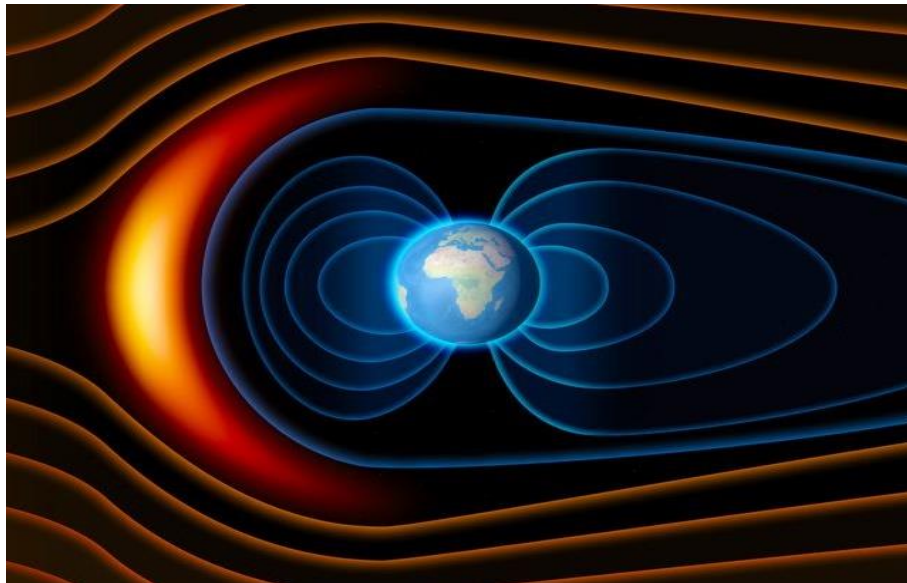
Greater ice on Moon

- ❖ ISRO revealed evidence for enhanced possibility of water ice occurrence in the polar craters of the Moon.
- ❖ The amount of subsurface ice in the first couple of metres is about five to eight times larger than the one at the surface in both poles of earth.

- ❖ The study also suggests that the extent of water ice in the northern polar region is twice that in the southern polar region.
- ❖ The results also conclude that the distribution of water ice is likely governed by "Mare volcanism".



Oldest evidence of Earth's magnetic field



- ❖ Geologists have found ancient rocks in Greenland that bear the oldest remnants of Earth's early magnetic field.
- ❖ The researchers determined that the rocks are about 3.7 billion years old and retain signatures of a magnetic field with a strength of at least 15 micro teslas.
- ❖ The ancient field is similar in magnitude to the Earth's magnetic field today.

- ❖ Previous studies have shown evidence for a magnetic field on Earth that is at least 3.5 billion years old.
- ❖ The new study is extending the magnetic field's lifetime by another 200 million years.

MISCELLANEOUS

First Walrus Death from Bird Flu

- ❖ One of Norway's Arctic islands recorded its first case of a walrus dying from bird flu.
- ❖ Notably, while bird flu primarily spreads through avian hosts like ducks and geese.
- ❖ Mammals have also been infected due to the consumption of infected birds and living close to other animals.
- ❖ A walrus which can grow to a weight of two tonnes mainly eats fish, but sometimes also consumes marine birds.

