



May - 12

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister presented the Kalvikko Award to S. Sathik, the former Vice-Chancellor of University of Madras.
- ❖ Father Robert Francis Prevost - now elected Pope, under the papal name Leo XIV, have visited the Shenbagam Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Pollachi in October 2006.
- ❖ TN Chief Minister announced that a grand library to be established by the State government in Tirunelveli will be named after leader of the Indian Union Muslim League (IUML) Quaid-E-Milleth.
- ❖ The Ordnance Factory, Tiruchi, a unit of the Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Ltd. has handed over the first batch of 92 numbers of TriCa (Trichy Carbine) weapons to the Kerala police.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has accorded administrative sanction for ₹150 crore for implementing Namakku Naame Thittam which aimed at encouraging people's participation in the creation of public assets.
- ❖ The Islamic Literature Society (ILS) celebrated its golden jubilee by organising a three-day conference in Tiruchi.
- ❖ The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) has banned the transgenders from competing in women's and girls' matches with immediate effect.
- ❖ Mission Sankalp, a massive anti-Naxal operation, was recently launched all along the Chhattisgarh-Telangana border.
- ❖ The Army and Air Force variants of the Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Dhruv, developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), have been officially cleared for operations.
- ❖ The Indian Navy has received its first Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW SWC), named 'Arnala'.
- ❖ Centre is going to launch a nationwide campaign 'Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan' to create awareness among the farmers about modern technology and new seed varieties.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

Shops Open Timing in Tamilnadu

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has permitted all shops and the establishments to remain open 24x7 on all days of the year.

- ❖ This provision has recently extended for three years from June 5, 2025.
- ❖ The State government has issued the necessary orders in this regard, amending the Tamil Nadu Shops and Establishments Act, 1947.
- ❖ It exempted shops and establishments that employed 10 or more persons from certain sections of the Tamil Nadu Shops and Establishments Act, 1947.



NATIONAL NEWS

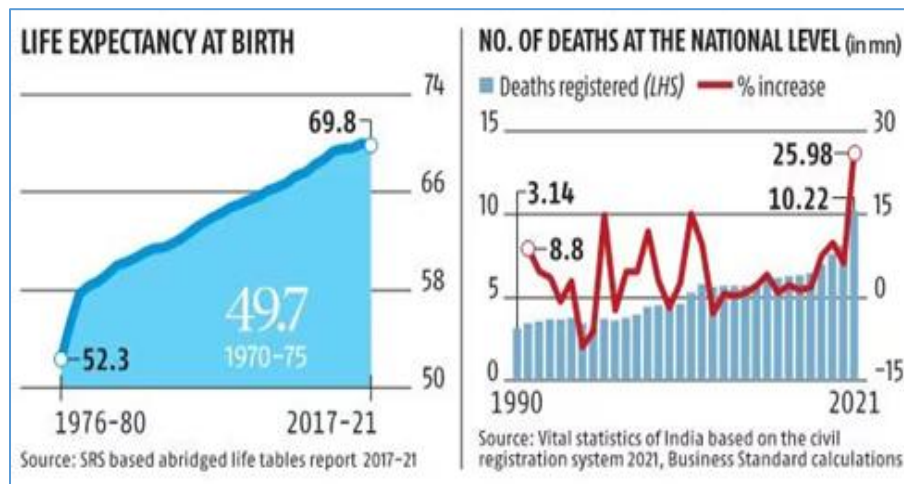
Supreme Court on Rohingyas



- ❖ The Supreme Court refused to stay the purported deportation of illegal Rohingya Muslim migrants from Delhi.

- ❖ Rohingyas are Foreigners and may be dealt with as per the Foreigners' Act.
- ❖ During the Mohammad Salimullah and Ors vs. Union of India and Ors (2021) case, the SC highlighted that rights under Articles 14 and 21 are available to all persons (including non-citizens).
- ❖ But the right not to be deported, is ancillary or concomitant to the right to reside or settle under Article 19(1)(e).
- ❖ India is not a signatory to the 1951 Convention on Refugees and its 1967 Protocol.
- ❖ Also, India does not have a separate law to deal with refugees.
- ❖ Thus, cases for refugee 'status' are considered on a case-by-case basis based on the policy of bilateralism.
- ❖ Refugees come under the definition of 'alien' and 'foreigners'.
- ❖ As per the Passport (Entry into India) Act of 1920, Centre may direct the removal of any foreigner from India who enters India without passport & visa.
- ❖ According to Articles 258(1) and 239(1) of the Constitution, States/UTs are also entrusted with these powers.

Life Expectancy Decline in India 2017/21



- ❖ Expectation of life at birth for India has dropped for the first time in 50 years, registering a decrease of 0.2 years in a year.
- ❖ Life expectancy at birth has been estimated at 69.8 years between 2017 and 2021, compared to 2016-2020.
- ❖ For rural and urban areas, life expectancy has declined by 0.1 years and 0.3 years respectively for the same time period.

- ❖ Life expectation at birth was registered highest in Delhi at 73 years for males and Kerala for females at 77.9 years.
- ❖ The lowest was noted in Chhattisgarh with 62.8 years for males and 66.4 years for females.

Deaths in India during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Year	Estimated deaths	Registered	Registration rate
2015	81,84,202	62,67,685	76.58%
2016	81,53,510	63,49,259	77.87%
2017	81,17,689	64,63,779	79.63%
2018	82,12,576	69,50,607	84.63%
2019	83,01,769	76,41,076	92.04%
2020	Not Released	81,15,882	—
2021	Not Released	1,02,24,506	—

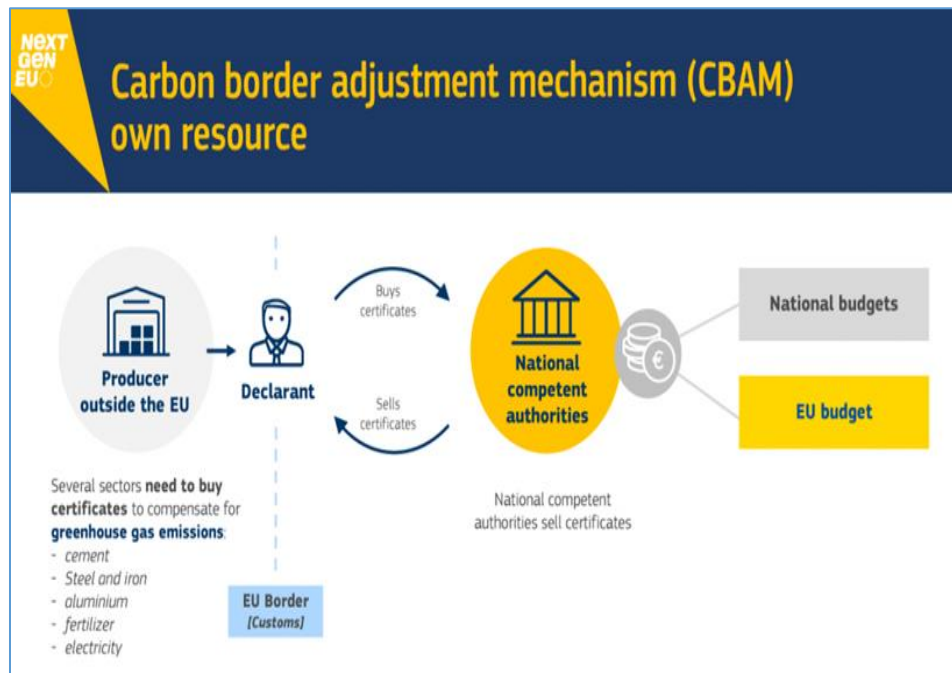
- ❖ The record of births and deaths show that about 21 lakhs more deaths were registered in 2021, compared to 2020.
- ❖ This number is about six times the official Indian Covid-19 death toll for 2021 — which is 3.32 lakh.
- ❖ The official total pandemic death count on the Covid-19 dashboard of the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare was 5.33 lakh.
- ❖ The WHO's report released in 2022 put the number of "excess" deaths in India in 2020 and 2021 at about 47 lakhs.
- ❖ It is almost 10 times the official Indian figure of 4.8 lakh for those two years.
- ❖ More than 1.02 crore deaths were registered in the country that year.
- ❖ It was 21 lakhs more than the 81.15 lakh deaths that were registered in the previous year (2020).

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

UK's Proposed Carbon Border Tax

- ❖ The UK government in December 2023 decided to implement its Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) starting 2027.

- ❖ Carbon tax will be levied on products such as iron and steel, aluminium, fertiliser and cement, from 2027.
- ❖ India's exports worth USD 775 million to the UK may be impacted due to this decision.
- ❖ The recent India-UK free trade agreement has no provision to counter Britain's proposed carbon tax.
- ❖ Because of the current uncertainty and no legislation in the place, there is an understanding that India will/ has preserved its right to retaliate or rebalance the concessions (in future).

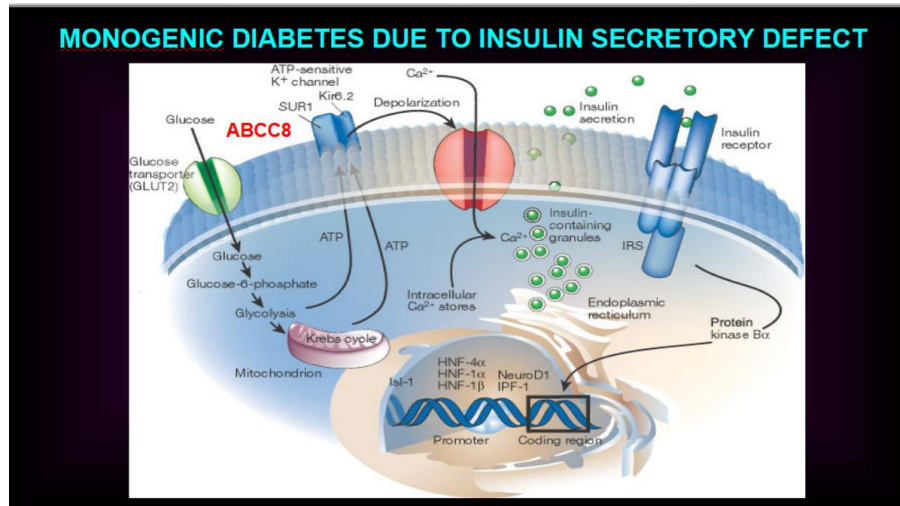


SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

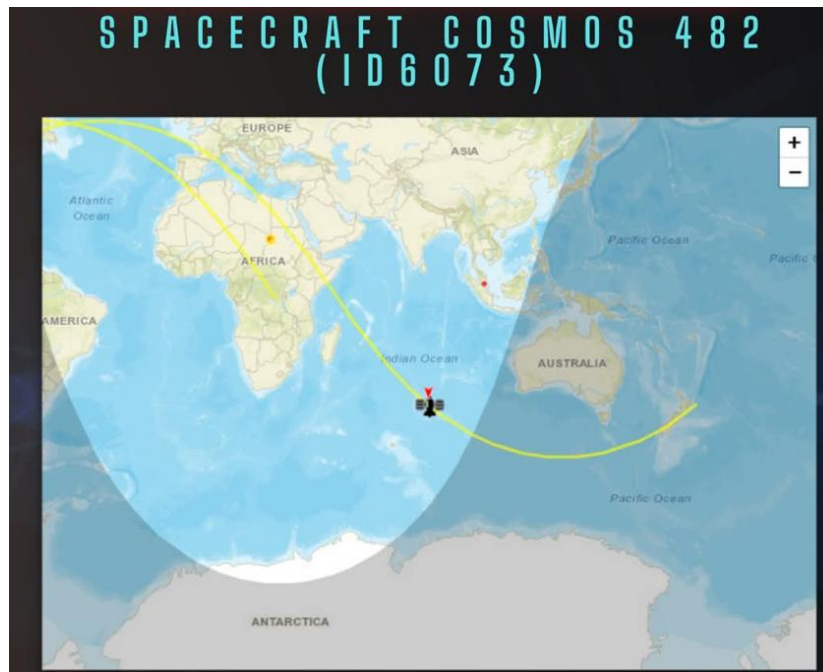
Novel type of diabetes

- ❖ For the first time, researchers have identified a new subtype of diabetes.
- ❖ This discovery focusses on a rare inherited form of diabetes known as Maturity-Onset Diabetes of the Young (MODY).
- ❖ It usually appears in childhood or adolescence.
- ❖ The findings reveal how a specific gene, ABCC8, which is crucial for the proper functioning of the insulin-producing pancreatic beta cells, causes the MODY subtype.
- ❖ MODY is an uncommon, inherited form of diabetes caused by the single-gene mutations that affect pancreatic insulin production.

- ❖ Till date, 13 subtypes of MODY have been identified.
- ❖ There is currently no way to prevent these disorders as they result from genetic defects.



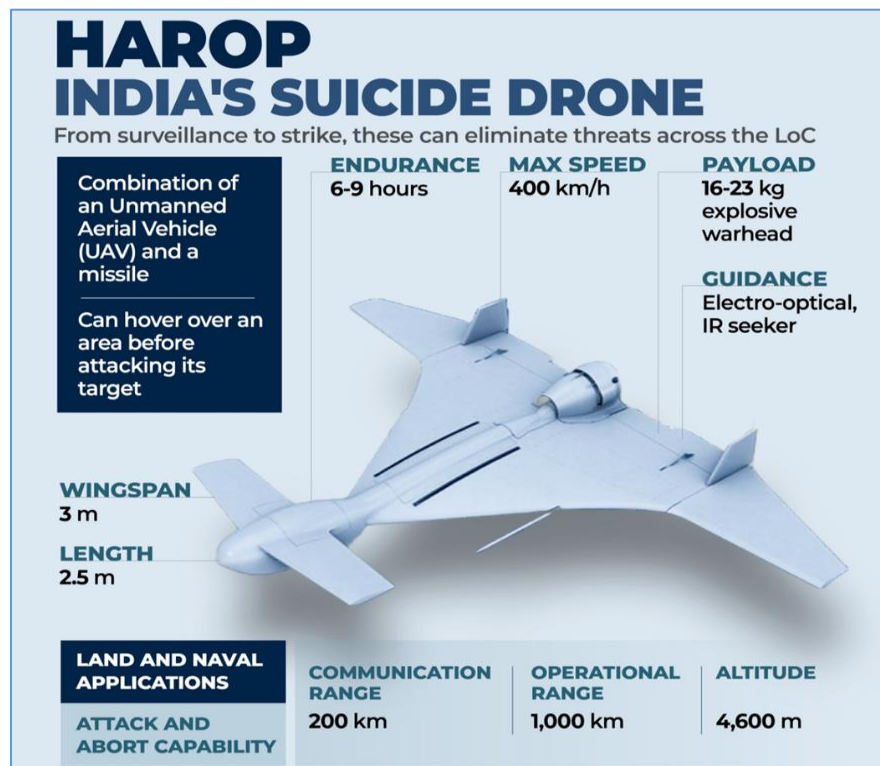
Kosmos 482



- ❖ Kosmos 482 is part of the Soviet Union's Venera program, which was dedicated to planetary exploration, particularly to Venus.
- ❖ It was launched in 1972.
- ❖ But due to a rocket failure, it has never left Earth's orbit, and has been circling the planet ever since due to gravity.

- ❖ The 1 metre width spacecraft weighs nearly 500 kilograms and is built from titanium.
- ❖ The uncontrolled reentry occurred in west of Middle Andaman Island in the Indian Ocean.

HAROP drones



- ❖ In response to Pakistan Drone attack, India also targeted multiple air defence systems in Pakistan with the latest Israeli HAROPs.
- ❖ HAROPs is a type of unmanned combat aerial vehicle.
- ❖ They cause destruction by crashing into their targets with the explosive payload that they carry.
- ❖ Thus, they earned a name such as “suicide drones” and “kamikaze drones”.
- ❖ They have a combining the characteristics of a UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) and a missile.
- ❖ The Harop drones are launched from outside the battlefield and can fly up to 200 kilometres.
- ❖ As loitering munitions, they hover above hostile zones, wait for a target, and then dive into it.

- ❖ They can hunt the high-value targets like unmanned surface vessels, command posts, supply depots, tanks, and air defense systems.

STATES' NEWS

Jenu Kuruba Tribe

- ❖ The Jenu Kuruba community had been evicted four decades ago in a bid to boost wildlife protection and tiger conservation in Nagarhole Tiger Reserve, Karnataka.
- ❖ Recently they have returned to their former homes.
- ❖ This is the first time Indigenous people in India have asserted their rights in this way.
- ❖ It is recognized by the provisions of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.
- ❖ An estimated of the 20,000 Jenu Kuruba people have been illegally evicted from Nagarhole.
- ❖ Another 6,000 resisted, and have managed to stay in the park.

