

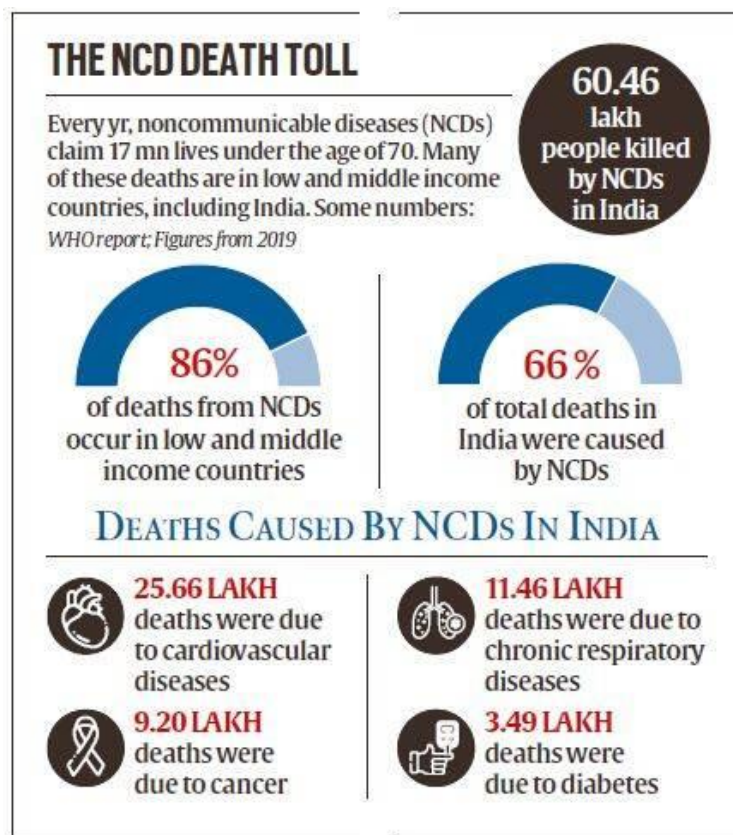
May - 13

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) are launching the fourth G20 TechSprint hackathon for global innovators.

NATIONAL

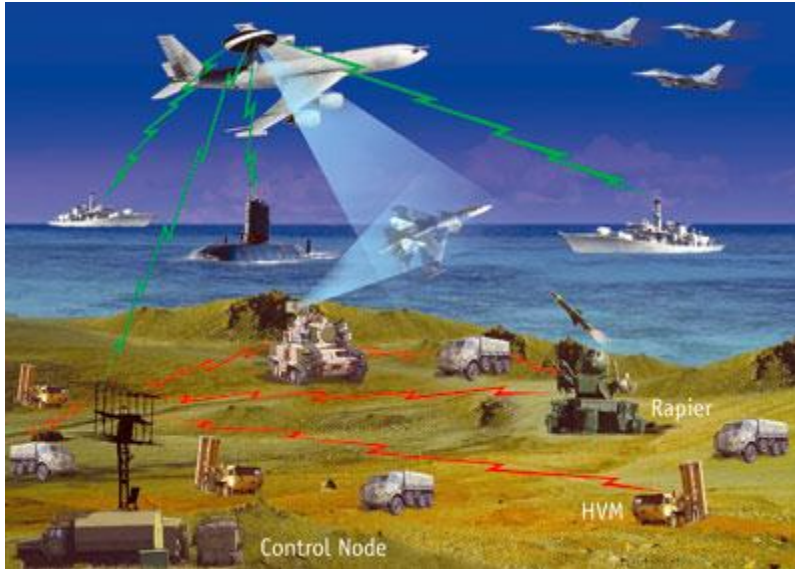
National Program for non-communicable diseases



- ❖ The Health Ministry has added new diseases to the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS)
- ❖ The addition of many new diseases or disease-groups and new health initiatives have prompted the Central government to widen the NPCDCS.
- ❖ It has decided to rename 'NPCDCS' as 'National Programme for Prevention & Control of Non-Communicable Diseases [NP-NCD].

- ❖ NPCDCS is being implemented under the National Health Mission (NHM) across the country.
- ❖ The proportion of deaths due to NCDs in India have increased from 37.9% in 1990 to 61.8% in 2016.
- ❖ The four major NCDs are cardiovascular diseases (CVDs), cancers, chronic respiratory diseases (CRDs) and diabetes.

Project Sanjay



- ❖ A new Battlefield Surveillance System (BSS) under Project Sanjay is in the process of being deployed.
- ❖ It will integrate thousands of sensors which will enable provision of an integrated surveillance picture to commanders and staff at all levels.
- ❖ The system also integrates data on the movements of India's adversaries received from various sources across borders, including sensors, satellites, UAVs or unmanned aerial vehicles, and patrols.

Decommissioning of INS Magar

- ❖ INS Magar, the oldest landing ship of the Indian Navy, was decommissioned recently.
- ❖ It did a prestigious service to the country for 36 years.
- ❖ INS Magar was launched on November 16, 1984.
- ❖ It participated in amphibious exercises and humanitarian missions and operations including Samudra Setu.

- ❖ In 2018, the vessel was converted into a training ship and joined the First Training Squadron at Kochi.



Estimate in the progress tracking report

Table 1: Countries with the largest numbers of deaths in 2020

Country	Total maternal deaths, stillbirths and neonatal deaths (thousands)	Share of total maternal deaths, stillbirths and neonatal deaths	Share of total live births	Maternal deaths (thousands)	Stillbirths (thousands)	Neonatal deaths (thousands)
India	788	17%	17%	24	297	468
Nigeria	540	12%	6%	82	181	277
Pakistan	474	10%	5%	10	207	257
Democratic Republic of the Congo	241	5%	3%	22	113	106
Ethiopia	196	4%	3%	10	83	104
Bangladesh	121	3%	2%	4	66	51
China	108	2%	9%	3	63	42
Indonesia	103	2%	3%	8	42	53
Afghanistan	95	2%	1%	9	38	49
United Republic of Tanzania	94	2%	2%	5	43	46

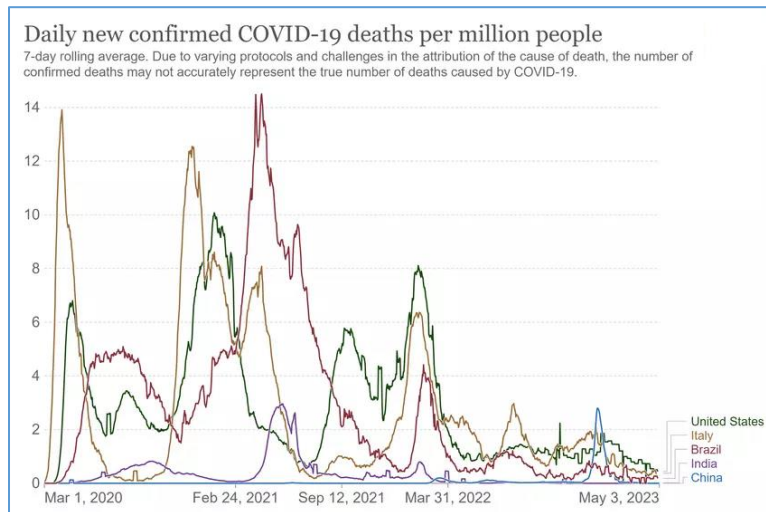
- ❖ The latest published estimate in the progress tracking report by the WHO, UNICEF, and the UNFPA was launched at 'International Maternal Newborn Health Conference' (IMNHC 2023).
- ❖ It shows there were a combined 4.5 million deaths in 2020-2021.
- ❖ It consists of maternal deaths (0.29 million), stillbirths (1.9 million) and newborn deaths (2.3 million).
- ❖ India leads a list of 10 countries that together account for 60 per cent of global maternal deaths, stillbirths and newborn deaths.
- ❖ Also, it accounted for 51 per cent of live births globally.

- ❖ India saw 7,88,000 maternal deaths, stillbirths and neonatal deaths in 2020, of the total 4.5 million deaths globally.
- ❖ It is followed by Nigeria, Pakistan, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Bangladesh and China for maternal deaths, stillbirths and neonatal deaths.
- ❖ Sub-Saharan Africa and Central and Southern Asia are the regions experiencing the largest number of deaths, although, across all regions.

INTERNATIONAL

Global Health Emergency covid 19

- ❖ The World Health Organization (WHO) ended the global emergency status for COVID-19 on 5 May.
- ❖ The virus that killed more than 6.9 million people along with other infectious diseases.
- ❖ Health Emergency of International Concern was announced on January 30, 2020.

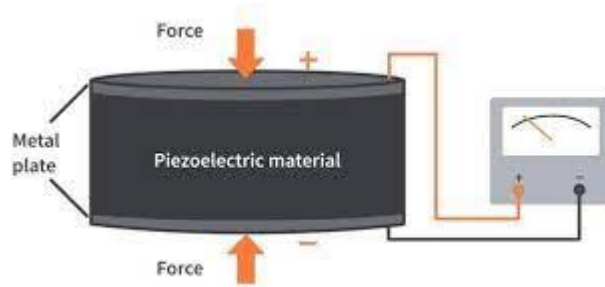


SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Sensor technology for underwater communications

- ❖ IIT Madras and DRDO have developed a cutting-edge sensor technology for underwater communications.
- ❖ The fabricated PZT thin film-based acoustic sensor exhibits higher performance than the conventional PVDF-based acoustic sensor.

- ❖ The indigenous technology will enable the fabrication of devices at a relatively lower cost as compared to international foundries.
- ❖ It is known as the piezoelectric Micro Electro Mechanical System technology.



REPORTS AND INDICES

“Race to Net Zero” Report



- ❖ Bangkok-based U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) recently released this report.
- ❖ Most Asia-Pacific countries are “insufficiently prepared” to face extreme weather events and natural disasters.
- ❖ While the region suffers the worst consequences of climate change, it is also a key perpetrator
- ❖ This region alone accounted for 57% of global emissions from fuel combustion in 2020.

- ❖ Six of the top 10 countries most affected by these disasters are in the Asia-Pacific region.
- ❖ The average annual economic losses across the region caused by natural and biological hazards are estimated at U.S.\$780 billion.

STATES

India's First Pod Taxi



- ❖ India is set to get its first pod taxi between Noida International Airport in Jewar and the Film City in the Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ Environment-friendly and fast, pod taxis are considered one of the most advanced modes of transport.
- ❖ They are automated cars and are designed in a way that they can carry only a fixed number of travellers from one place to another.
- ❖ They need a track to travel and are powered by electricity.
- ❖ Tracks for pod taxis are usually made separately on the rods in a bid to avoid the road traffic.

Dawki Land Port

- ❖ The Union Minister of State for Home Affairs inaugurated the Dawki Land Port in Meghalaya's West Jaintia Hills district.
- ❖ It aims to promote trade and commerce between India and Bangladesh.

- ❖ The corresponding Land Port in Bangladesh is Tamabil, located in the Sylhet district.
- ❖ They will serve as a vital trade and transportation hub between India and Bangladesh and will facilitate the movement of goods, people, and vehicles across the border.



SPORTS

Laureus awards



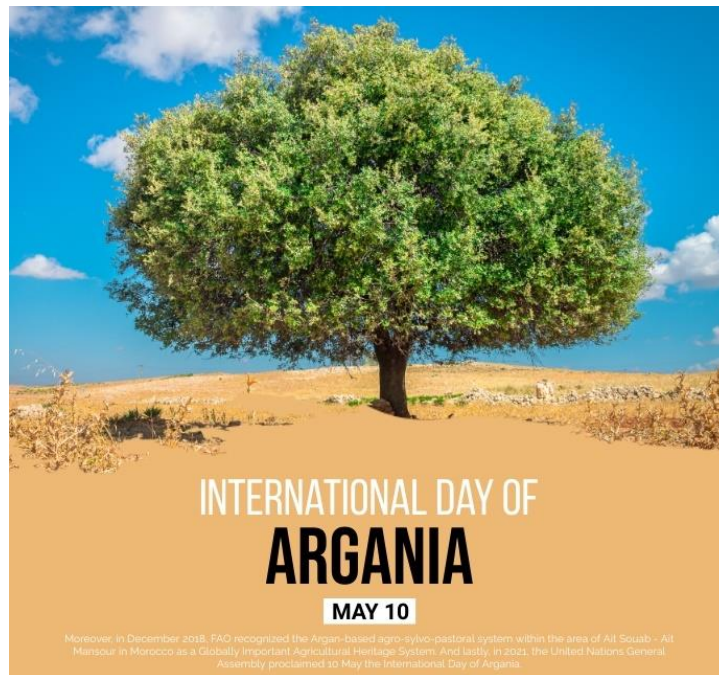
- ❖ Lionel Messi wins the Laureus World Sportsman of the Year 2023.
- ❖ Messi won Sportsman of the Year for a second time after sharing the 2020 award with Formula One driver Lewis Hamilton.



- ❖ Ann Fraser-Pryce wins Laureus World Sportswoman of the Year 2023.
- ❖ She earned Sportswoman of the Year for the first time in her sixth nomination.
- ❖ Fraser-Pryce is the second consecutive Jamaican sprinter to win the award after Elaine Thompson-Herah.
- ❖ Chinese freeskier Eileen Gu won Action Sportsperson of the Year.
- ❖ Spanish tennis player Carlos Alcaraz won Breakthrough of the Year
- ❖ Swiss Paralympic champion wheelchair racer Catherine Debrunner won Sportsperson of the Year with a Disability.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of Argania - May 10



- ❖ Morocco and the United Nations celebrates the International Day of Argania.
- ❖ The theme of this year is "Local socio-economic development and sustainability of the argan ecosystem."
- ❖ It aims to highlight the argan tree's role in community development and sustainability.
- ❖ This celebration highlights Morocco's efforts to promote the argan tree as a tree endemic to the Kingdom.
- ❖ Argan trees hold a special place in Morocco and Moroccan culture, as the country is the world's main exporter of Argan-related products.



- ❖ Morocco's annual Argan oil production is estimated to range from 4,000 to 6,000 tons.
- ❖ UNESCO added the Argan tree to the Representative List of Humanity's Intangible Cultural Heritage in 2014.

