



May - 22

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe), has won the Geospatial World Leadership Award 2024 under “Enabling Public Policy” category.
- ❖ Senior advocate Kapil Sibal has been elected as the president of the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA).
- ❖ Brazil was declared the host of the 2027 Women's World Cup at the FIFA Congress.
- ❖ Marble mined in Gujarat's Ambaji has recently been awarded the Geographical Indication Tag.
 - It is also known as Amba White Marble and Ambe White Marble.
- ❖ The all-weather accessible Sela Tunnel in Arunachal Pradesh has been officially recognised as the highest tunnel in the country by the International Book of Honour, England.
 - It is located at over 13,000 feet above the sea level,
- ❖ A M4 chip introduced by Apple in the iPad Pro includes a 16-core Neural Engine, referred to by Apple as the Neural Processing Unit (NPU).

NATIONAL

SC order on UAPA

Targeting terror

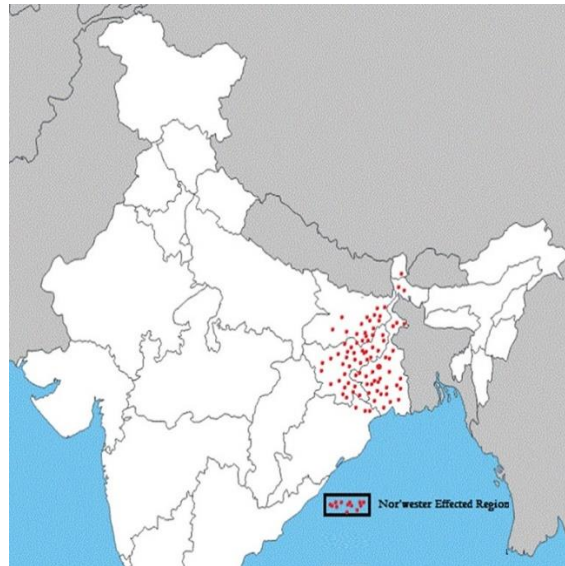
The UAPA (Amendment) Bill will enable the government to designate a person as a terrorist

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The proposal to designate an individual as a terrorist will come from security agencies ▪ The information will then be corroborated through multiple agencies ▪ The Home Ministry will examine the proposal. Once the Ministry is convinced, the proposal will be signed by the Home Minister | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The individual can then file an appeal with the Ministry ▪ The Ministry will have to decide on appeal in 45 days ▪ The individual can also file an appeal before an independent committee ▪ The UAPA, first framed in 1967, was amended in 2004, 2008 and 2013 |
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- ❖ The Supreme Court declared as illegal News Click founder and Editor-in-Chief Prabir Purkayastha's arrest by the Delhi police and his remand in a case under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act 1967.

- ❖ It is alleged that the news portal received foreign funds in violation of the FCRA case.
- ❖ In October last year, Purkayastha was arrested by the Delhi Police Special Cell under the UAPA.
- ❖ His arrest came after several raids conducted following a New York Times article which claimed that News Click was being paid by an American billionaire to promote Chinese propaganda.

Nor'westers research testbed



- ❖ India is establishing its first research testbed to study severe thunderstorms known as Nor'westers, primarily affecting the eastern and northeastern regions.
- ❖ It aims to study thunderstorms from the formation stage, growth, and propagation over eastern parts of the country.
- ❖ This will be done using meteorological instruments, drones, and other equipment that will aid in the systematic tracking of thunderstorms.
- ❖ Originating over east and northeast India, south Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh, the nor'westers are extremely severe thunderstorms accompanied by squally winds.

INTERNATIONAL

WHO - Action on Salt and Hypertension

- ❖ The WHO/Europe released a report called "Action on salt and hypertension".

- ❖ They warned to reduce salt intake and improve detection and control of hypertension to protect people's health.
- ❖ People should eat less than 5 grams of salt (equal to less than 2 grams of sodium) every day to lower the health risks.
- ❖ Cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) are the predominant cause of disability and premature death in the European Region.
- ❖ It is causing over 42.5% of all deaths annually, this equals to 10, 000 deaths every day.



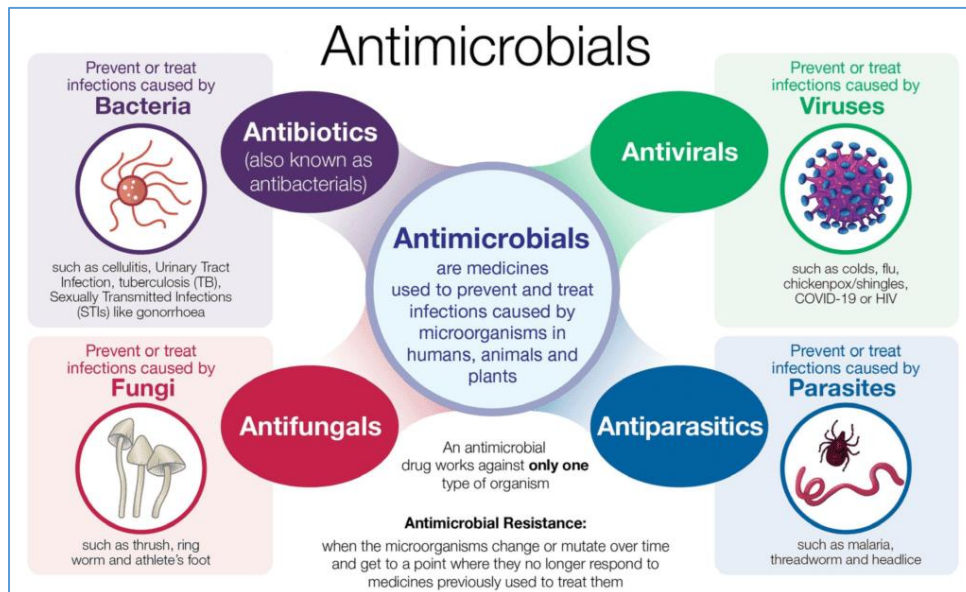
Nagorno-Karabakh dispute

- ❖ Armenia and Azerbaijan had agreed a deal on disputed sections of their shared border.
- ❖ The deal between the two Caucasus nations, includes the return to Azerbaijan of four border villages seized by Armenia in the 1990s.
- ❖ The move will see four border villages — Baghanis Ayrum, Ashaghi Askipara, Kheyrimli and Ghizilhajili — return to Azerbaijani control.

- ❖ Armenia and Azerbaijan fought two wars, in the 1990s and in 2020, for control of the then-contested breakaway region of Nagorno-Karabakh.



Global Cooperation and Pandemic Treaty

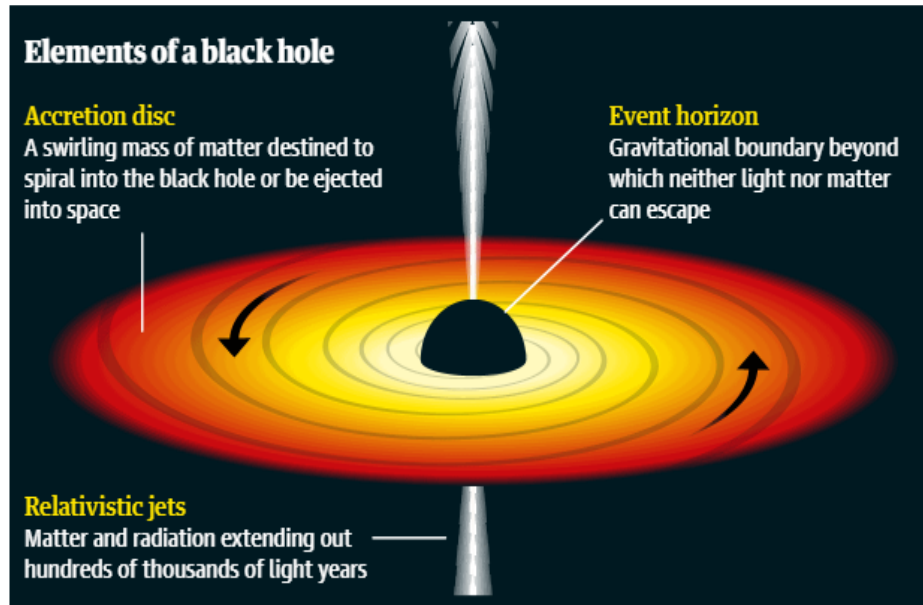


- ❖ UN called to Finalise the international pandemic treaty with utmost importance, especially as the world faces the growing health challenge of antimicrobial resistance (AMR).
- ❖ The pandemic treaty is envisioned to pull together global efforts against new pathogens that pose a danger to public health.
- ❖ In 2019, nearly 1.27 million deaths annually were directly linked and 4.9 million deaths were associated with AMR.

- ❖ By 2050 the potential impact is estimated at 10 million annual deaths.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

“Plunging regions” around black holes



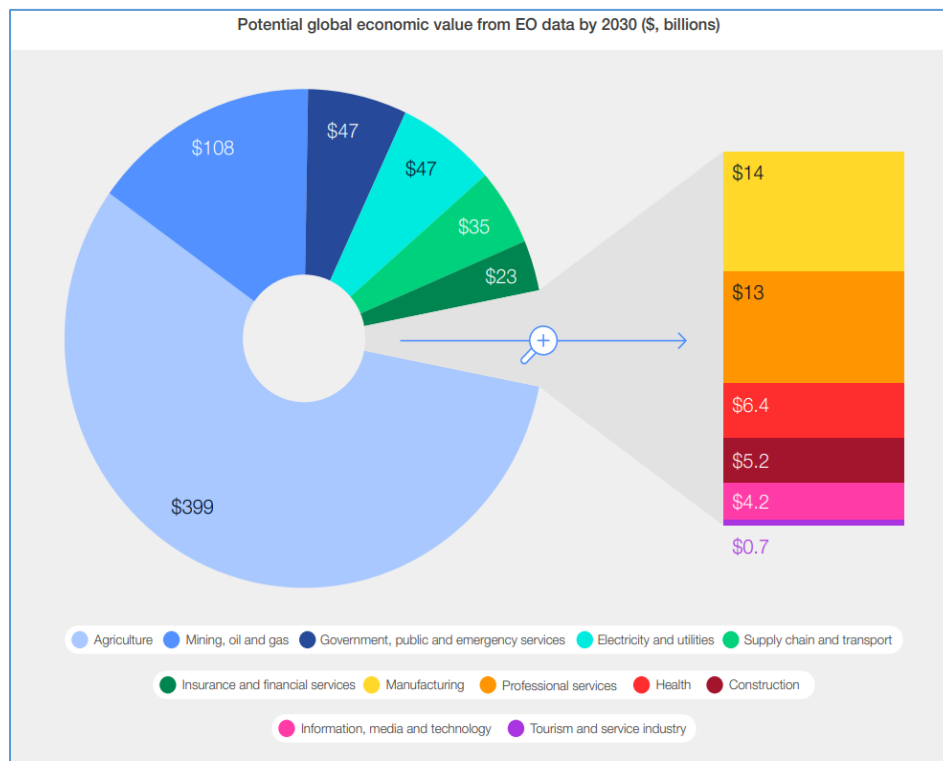
- ❖ A new study found the first observational proof of a key prediction from Einstein’s theory of gravity regarding the existence of “plunging regions” around black holes.
- ❖ It also exerts some of the strongest gravitational forces yet identified in the galaxy.
- ❖ Einstein’s theory states that
 - Sufficiently close to a black hole it is impossible for particles to safely follow circular orbits.
 - Instead, they rapidly “plunge” toward the black hole at close to the speed of light – giving the plunging region its name.

REPORTS AND INDICES

Amplifying the Global Value of Earth Observation

- ❖ The report released by the World Economic Forum delves into the economic potential of Earth Observation (EO) technologies across various sectors.
- ❖ Greater adoption of Earth Observation data and technology can boost global growth by adding up to \$3.8 trillion to global GDP.

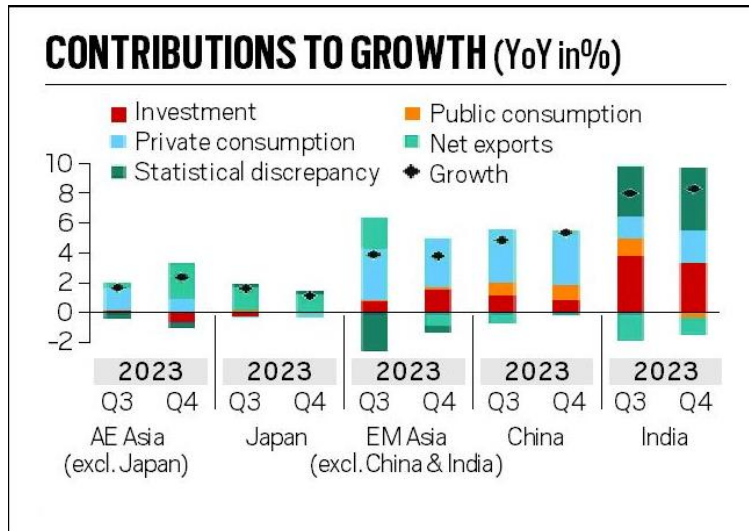
- ❖ The global value of Earth observation data is projected to increase from \$266 billion to over \$700 billion by 2030.
- ❖ Earth Observation Data has the potential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by up to 2.2 gigatonnes annually, which is equal to the emissions of 476 million cars.
- ❖ The Asia Pacific region will be the leader in capturing the value of EO, potentially reaching \$315 billion by 2030.
- ❖ Earth Observation is the process of collecting information about activities and characteristics on Earth which includes physical, chemical, biological and anthropogenic (human) systems.



Regional Economic Outlook for Asia and Pacific

- ❖ The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has released its Regional Economic Outlook for Asia and Pacific Report April 2024.
- ❖ Asia-Pacific's growth in late 2023 surpassed expectations at 5.0%, with varying inflation rates across economies.
- ❖ Projections for 2024 suggest a slight growth slowdown to 4.5%, balancing near-term risks
- ❖ India's growth forecast for the financial year 2024-25 to 6.8% from 6.5% earlier and retained the growth forecast for 2025-26 at 6.5%.

- ❖ India was the source of repeated positive growth surprises, supported by resilient domestic demand.
- ❖ Also, Public Investment is a significant factor in driving India's economy.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Forbes World Highest paid athletes 2024



- ❖ According to Forbes' list Cristiano Ronaldo tops Forbes' list of the world's highest-paid athletes.



- ❖ He is followed by Jon Rahm (golf), Lionel Messi (soccer) and LeBron James (basketball).
- ❖ For the first time, the top-10 highest paid athletes have each earned more than \$100 million.
- ❖ No women have ranked inside the top 50 of Forbes' list for the first time since 2019.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Metrology Day 2024 - May 20

- ❖ This day commemorates the signing of the Metre Convention on 20 May 1875.
- ❖ Metrology is the scientific study of measurement.
- ❖ By the Convention, the International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM) was established.
- ❖ BIPM is an organisation focused on promoting the usage of a standardised measurement system.
- ❖ This led to the development of International Prototype of the Kilogramme (IPK) as the standard unit of mass.
- ❖ International Prototype of the Metre (IPM) was chosen as the standard unit of length.
- ❖ The theme for World Metrology Day 2024 is Sustainability.

