

May - 29

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Neyveli Thermal Power Station-II units started to blend coal with lignite for the first time.
- ❖ Anna University has reversed its decision to suspend the civil and mechanical engineering programmes in Tamil medium in its 11 constituent colleges.
 - In 2010, Anna University introduced BTech courses in Tamil-medium.
- ❖ Former Minister and five-time Congress MLA U T Khader were unanimously elected as the new Speaker of the Karnataka Legislative Assembly.
 - Khader (53) will be the first Muslim leader to serve as Speaker of Karnataka Assembly.

TAMIL NADU

Community-based initiative for Hornbills



- ❖ A community-based conservation initiative, involving the Kadar tribal community, has restored the dwindling hornbill population.
- ❖ The Hornbill nest tree monitoring programme was started in 2005.
- ❖ It has objected to address the declining hornbill population and restore their vanishing nesting habitat.

- ❖ It has involved the Kadars, an indigenous community, in the Vazhachal forest division.
- ❖ The programme had technical support of the Western Ghats Hornbill Foundation for the conservation processes.
- ❖ Kadar, small tribe of southern India, are residing along the hilly border between Cochin in Kerala and Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ Kadar live in the forests and do not practice agriculture.

NATIONAL

People's Biodiversity Register



- ❖ The National Campaign for Updating and Verification of People's Biodiversity Register (PBR) was launched in Goa.
- ❖ Kolkata has become the first major metropolitan city in India to make a detailed People's Biodiversity Register (PBR).
- ❖ It is aimed to document and preserve India's rich biological diversity.
- ❖ It serves as a comprehensive record of locally available Bio-resources including the landscape and demography of a particular area or village.
- ❖ It is prepared by Biodiversity Management Committees (under Biodiversity Act 2002) in consultation with local communities.

Logo, Theme and Website of India's G20 Presidency

- ❖ Prime Minister unveiled the Logo, Theme and Website of India's G20 Presidency.
- ❖ The G20 Logo draws inspiration from the vibrant colours of India's national flag – saffron, white and green, and blue.



- ❖ It juxtaposes planet Earth with the lotus, India's national flower that reflects growth amid challenges.
- ❖ Below the G20 logo is "Bharat", written in the Devanagari script.
- ❖ The theme of India's G20 Presidency is "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" or "One Earth One Family One Future".
- ❖ It is drawn from the ancient Sanskrit text of the Maha Upanishad.
- ❖ The website of India's G20 Presidency www.g20.in was also launched.



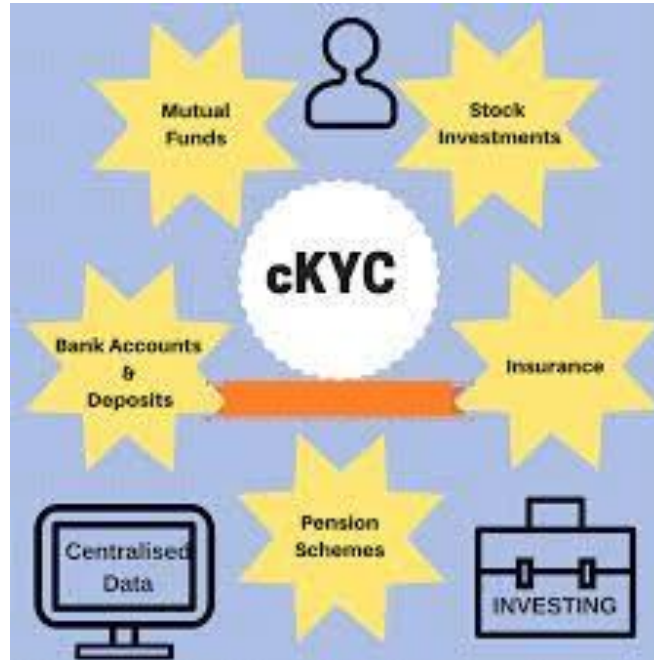
AIRAWAT



- ❖ The 61st edition of the Top 500 Global Supercomputing List published in the International Supercomputing Conference (ISC 2023) in Germany.

- ❖ India's AI Supercomputer 'AIRAWAT' has been ranked 75th worldwide.
- ❖ It is located at C-DAC in Pune.

C-KYC Database

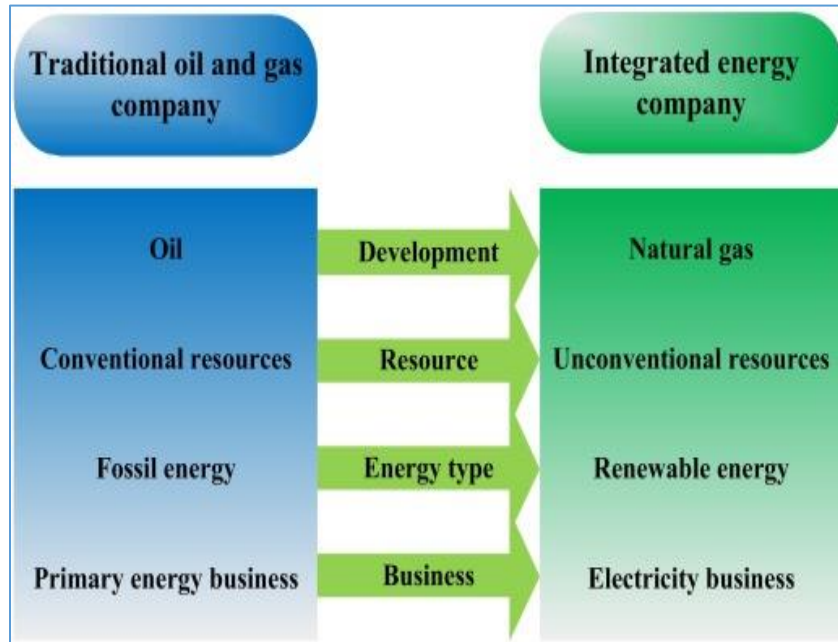


- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has recently classified the Centralised Know Your Customer (c-KYC) database as high risk, posing challenges for financial institutions.
- ❖ This move has prompted banks to explore alternative methods for customer authentication, such as video KYC or physical KYC.
- ❖ It is a centralized repository that stores or saves all the personal details of the customer.
- ❖ This helps to bring all the KYC processes on a single platform.
- ❖ The Central Registry of Securitization and Asset Reconstruction and Securities Interest of India (CERSAI) manages C-KYC Registry.
- ❖ The Union Budget of 2012-13 announced the C-KYC and commenced in July 2016.

Low Carbon Transition of India's Oil and Gas Sector

- ❖ The report titled "The Green Shift: The Low Carbon Transition of India's Oil and Gas Sector" has released by the Energy Transition Advisory Committee (ETAC).

- ❖ The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoP&NG) emphasized the need for India's energy transition.
- ❖ It highlighted various pathways to achieve a low-carbon future.
- ❖ One promising solution highlighted in the report is the use of Compressed Biogas (CBG) as an alternative to imported fossil natural gas.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Topaz



- ❖ Infosys has launched Topaz, a comprehensive suite of services, solutions, and platforms.
- ❖ It harnesses the power of generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies.

- ❖ Topaz is built on Infosys' applied AI framework, enabling the development of an AI-first core.
- ❖ It enhances the capabilities of individuals and organizations to deliver cognitive solutions and accelerate value creation.

ENVIRONMENT

ITF Transport Outlook 2023

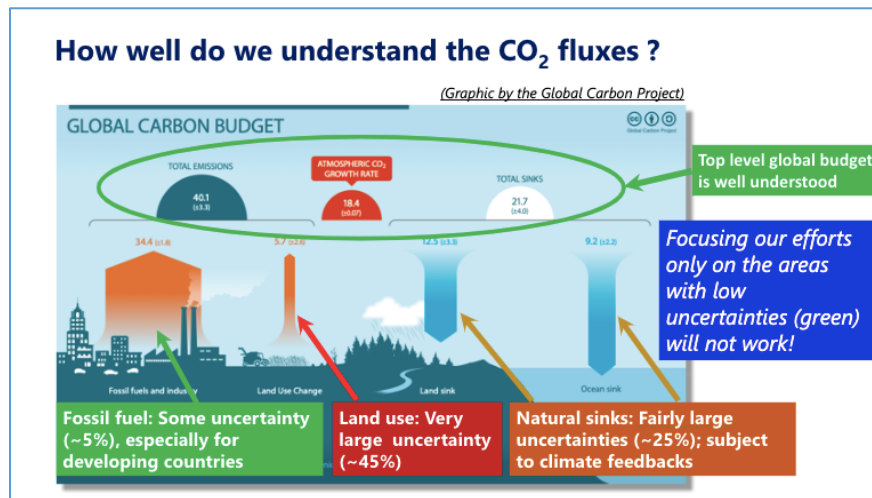


- ❖ The International Transport Forum (ITF) at the OECD recently released ITF Transport Outlook 2023 report.
- ❖ The decarbonization of transportation plays a crucial role in achieving the goals outlined in the 2015 Paris Agreement.
- ❖ It highlighting the importance of adopting a mix of policies to promote sustainable choices in transportation.
- ❖ It is implementing ambitious policies for decarbonizing transportation would require 5% less investment in core infrastructure compared to following current policies.

Global Greenhouse Gas Watch (G3W)

- ❖ The World Meteorological Congress has approved a new greenhouse gas (GHG) monitoring initiative in a landmark decision.

- ❖ Global Greenhouse Gas Watch (G3W) is an initiative coordinated by World Meteorological Organisation (WMO).
- ❖ G3W aims to establish internationally coordinated monitoring of greenhouse gas fluxes (top-down) to support the provision of the UNFCCC parties and other stakeholders.
- ❖ The new global GHG watch will fill critical information gaps and provide an integrated and operational framework.
- ❖ The system will provide sustained delivery of monthly global estimates of net GHG fluxes into and out of the atmosphere at a 100 by 100 km resolution.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Hari Buddha Magar



- ❖ Hari Buddha Magar from Nepal made history by successfully climbing Mount Everest using prosthetic legs.

- ❖ His legs got blown off in Afghanistan during his British Gurkha carrier.
- ❖ In the past decade following the tragedy, Magar successfully reached the summits of several notable peaks.
- ❖ It is including Ben Nevis, Mount Blanc, Kilimanjaro, Mera Peak, and Mount Toubkal.

Jaswant Singh Birdi

- ❖ Coventry, a city in the West Midlands of the United Kingdom, has appointed Jaswant Singh Birdi as its new Lord Mayor.
- ❖ As an Indian-origin Sikh councillor, Birdi's appointment marks a significant milestone in the city's history.
- ❖ He was born in Punjab and spent some time as a child in Calcutta in West Bengal.



IMPORTANT DAYS

World Schizophrenia Day – May 24

- ❖ This day is declared to honor Dr. Philippe Pinel, from France.
- ❖ He strived to provide humane care and treatment for the mentally ill.
- ❖ The day is observed to create awareness about the mental health disorder and ensure better treatment and rehabilitation of people suffering from Schizophrenia disease.

- ❖ Schizophrenia alters perception, leading to hallucinations, strange thoughts, and a sense of being in a different world.

