

November - 07

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Mumbai recorded the 4th highest year-on-year growth (6.5%) in prime residential prices in Q3 2023.

## NATIONAL

### NECP and EEFP Programs

- ❖ The National Efficient Cooking Program (NECP) and Energy Efficient Fans Programme (EEFP) were launched under the Ministry of Power.
- ❖ The NECP focuses on the introduction of induction-based cookstoves, which offer a cost advantage of 25-30% compared to traditional cooking methods.
- ❖ The Energy Efficient Fans Programme (EEFP) focuses on deploying energy-efficient BLDC fans, with the goal of distributing 1 crore ceiling fans.



## INTERNATIONAL

### International Humanitarian Law on Human Shields

- ❖ The United States accused Palestinian militant group Hamas of using innocent Palestinians as human shields.
- ❖ Meanwhile, protests rage on in the Arab world and beyond, condemning the forced displacement of Gazans and other Palestinians by Israel.

- ❖ The term ‘human shields’ is used in IHL with respect to civilians or other protected persons, whose presence or movement is aimed, or used to render military targets immune from military operations.
- ❖ The use of human shields is considered a war crime and is banned as per Rule 97 of the International Humanitarian Law (IHL).
- ❖ The International Committee of the Red Cross and the Norwegian Refugee Council described the order to “forcibly transfer” civilians as unlawful.



### **Rafah border crossing – Egypt**



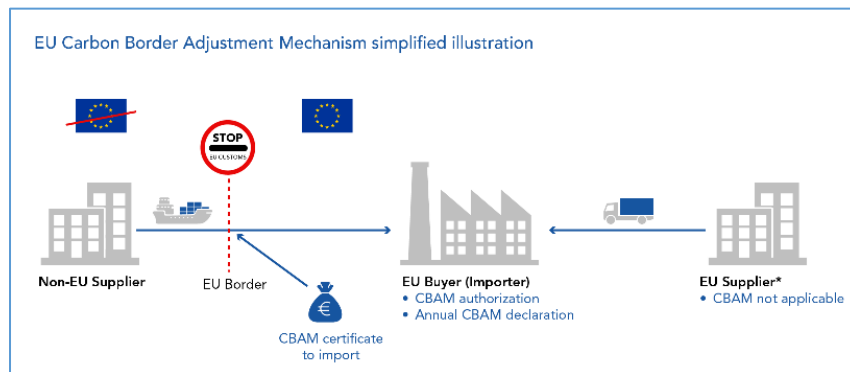
- ❖ The Rafah crossing between Gaza and Egypt is opened to limited evacuations from the besieged Palestinian territory to Egypt.
- ❖ The Rafah border crossing is connecting Gaza with Egypt’s Sinai Peninsula.

- ❖ The border, located at the southern tip of the strip, is the only crossing that isn't controlled by Israel and allows humanitarian aid as the situation in Gaza worsens.
- ❖ The crossing falls along a 12.8-kilometre fence that separates Gaza from the Sinai desert.
- ❖ The deal among Egypt, Israel, and Hamas to partially open the Rafah border crossing was mediated by Qatar.

## ECONOMY

### Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism

- ❖ The European Union's proposed Carbon Tax on imports is an 'ill-conceived' move that would become the "death knell" for its manufacturing sector.
- ❖ It Initially covers iron and steel, cement, aluminium, fertilisers, and electric energy production
- ❖ India would counteract it by imposing its own carbon tax.
- ❖ India is considering a strategy to impose domestic taxes on high-carbon goods and utilize the generated revenue to facilitate its transition towards green energy.
- ❖ This approach aims to circumvent the European Union's carbon tax on imports.

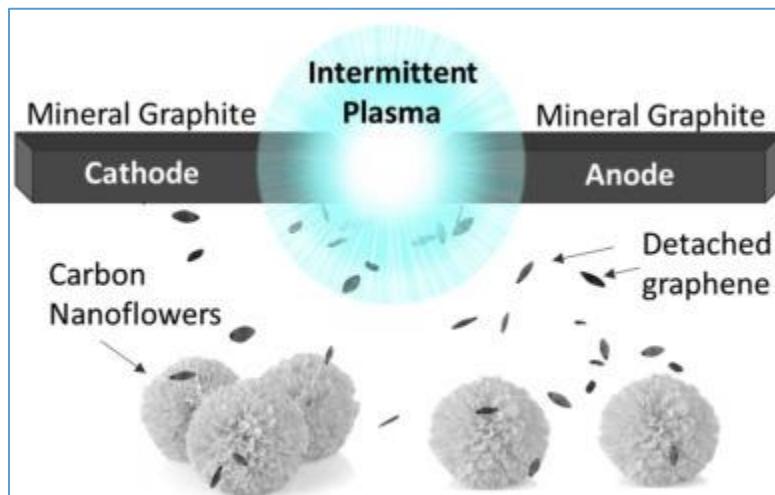


## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

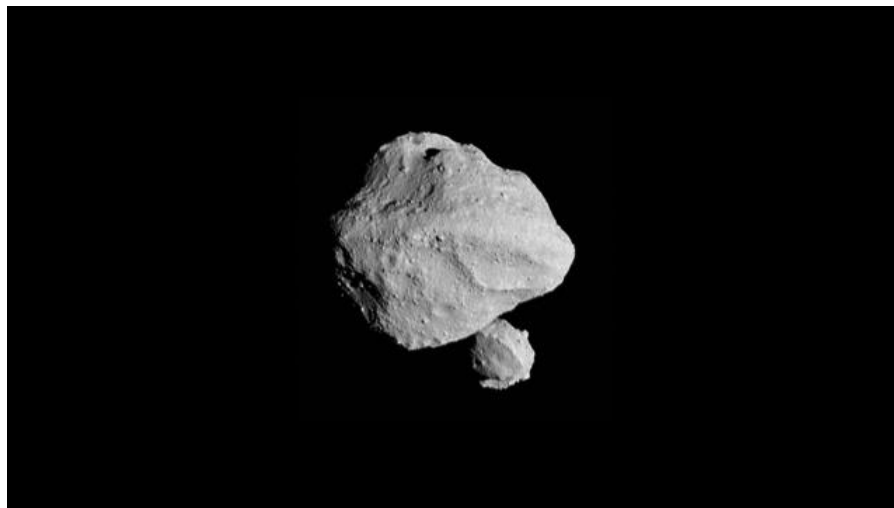
### Carbon nanoflorets

- ❖ Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay have created carbon nanoflorets that can efficiently convert sunlight into heat.
- ❖ Carbon nanoflorets are a unique nanostructure composed of carbon atoms arranged in a distinctive floret-like morphology.

- ❖ These nanoflorets can absorb light at multiple frequencies, including infrared, visible light, and ultraviolet, making them highly efficient at converting sunlight into thermal energy.
- ❖ Additionally, their unique shape ensures minimal light reflection and efficient heat retention.
- ❖ It can provide ecologically sustainable heating and has potential uses in various sectors, including construction and healthcare.



### **Asteroid 'Dinkinesh' / Lucy spacecraft**

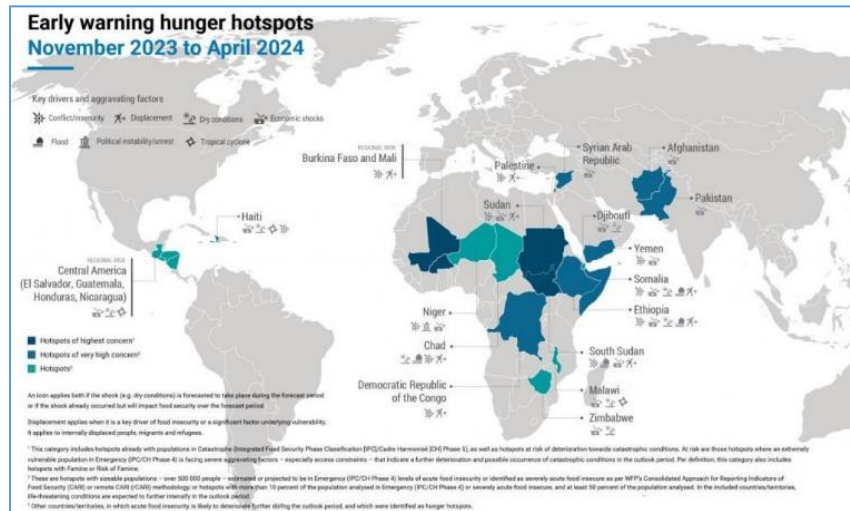


- ❖ The Lucy spacecraft, launched in 2021 successfully completed a flyby of the small asteroid Dinkinesh.
- ❖ It discovered it is not one single asteroid, but a system of two, with a small 220m-wide satellite spinning around it.
- ❖ Dinkinesh is barely a half-mile (790 meters) across.

- ❖ Its closely circling moon is a mere one-tenth-of-a-mile (220 metres) in size.
- ❖ The mission's main targets are a group of eight asteroids known as the Trojans.
- ❖ The spacecraft will reach the first of these so-called Trojan asteroids in 2027 and explore them for at least six years.
- ❖ The original target list of seven asteroids now stands at 11.

## REPORTS AND INDICES

### FAO and WFP Report 2023

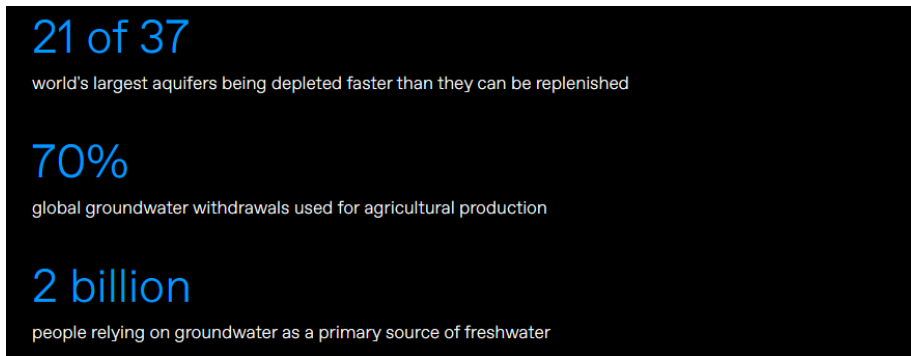


- ❖ The new report released by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Food Programme (WFP).
- ❖ Acute food insecurity is likely to worsen in 18 hunger hotspots through April 2024.
- ❖ These hotspots comprise 22 countries or territories, including two regional clusters.
- ❖ Afghanistan, Congo Republic, Ethiopia, Haiti, Pakistan, Somalia, the Syrian Arab Republic, and Yemen are identified as high-risk areas in the report.

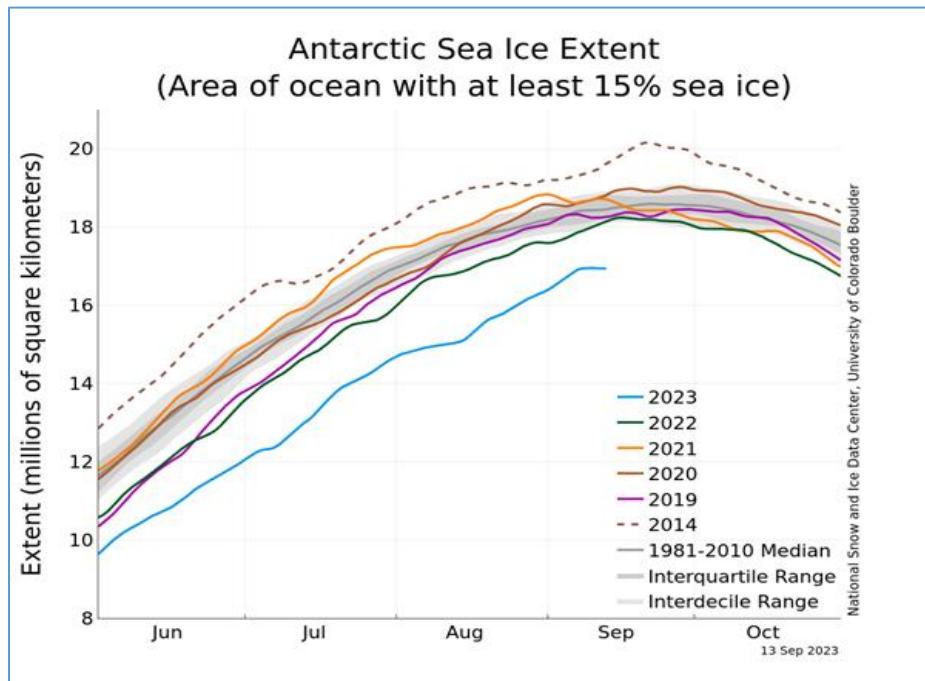
### Interconnected Disaster Risks Report 2023

- ❖ The UN Interconnected Disaster Risks Report released by the United Nations University- Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS).
- ❖ The report analyses several examples of disasters each year and explains how they are inter- connected with each other and with human actions.
- ❖ India is close to reaching its groundwater depletion tipping point.

- ❖ According to the report, 78% of wells in Punjab are considered overexploited.
- ❖ These aquifers supply drinking water to over two billion people, and around 70% of withdrawals are used for agriculture.
- ❖ Between 2000 and 2019, glaciers lost 267 gigatons of ice per year.
- ❖ Nearly 90,000 glaciers of the Himalayas, Karakoram and Hindu Kush mountains are at risk, and so are the nearly 870 million people that rely on them.
- ❖ Frequent severe weather is causing a sevenfold increase in damages since the 1970s, with USD 313 billion in losses in 2022.



## 2023 State of the Climate Report



- ❖ This report was released by World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

- ❖ 2023 has already seen 38 days with global average temperatures above 1.5°C by 12 September.
- ❖ This was more than any other year and the total may continue to rise.
- ❖ Antarctic sea ice reached its lowest daily relative extent since the advent of satellite data, at 2.67 million square kilometers below the 1991–2023 average.

## **PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS**

### **Golden Globe Race**

- ❖ 2 women navy officers trained to undertake the first women solo-circumnavigation as part of the Navy’s “Sagar Parikrama”
- ❖ This will be the fourth edition of the solo circumnavigation voyage of the Navy.
- ❖ The voyage will see a woman naval officer sail around the world, solo and without stops.
- ❖ The two officer’s lieutenant commander Dilna K, and lieutenant commander Roopa Alagiri samy selected for training.



## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

### **World Day of Romani Language 2023 - November 05**

- ❖ UNESCO proclaimed the World Day of Romani Language in 2015.
- ❖ It aims to promote the preservation of Romani language and culture, improve the well-being of Romani people, and recognize the importance of all languages.

- ❖ The Romani language has about 33,000 words and it represents a good basis for its modernization and final standardization.



## MISCELLANEOUS

### Hurun India's Philanthropy List for 2023

<b>THE TOP 10 IN THE EDELGIVE HURUN INDIA PHILANTHROPY LIST 2023</b>					
Rank	Name	Donation (INR Cr)	Change %	Primary Cause	Company
1	Shiv Nadar & family	2,042	76%	Arts, Culture & Heritage	HCLTech
2	Azim Premji & family	1,774	267%	Education	Wipro
3	Mukesh Ambani & family	376	-8%	Healthcare	Reliance Industries
4	Kumar Mangalam Birla & family	287	18%	Education	Aditya Birla
5	Gautam Adani & family	285	50%	Education	Adani

- ❖ Shiv Nadar, the founder of HCL Technologies, has retained the title of the country's most generous man with 2,042 crore donations.
- ❖ He has topped the list for the third time in five years





- ❖ He is followed by Wipro founder Azim Premji.
- ❖ Mukesh Ambani and Kumar Mangalam Birla, came third and fourth on the list.

