

November - 15

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Asian Hockey Federation CEO Mohammad Tayyab Ikram of China's Autonomous Region Macau was elected as the new president of the International Hockey Federation.

NATIONAL

Transport 4 All Challenge Stage 2



- ❖ The Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry launched the “Transport 4 All Challenge” Stage 2.
- ❖ It aims to ease the mobility experience of Indian citizens.
- ❖ The challenge seeks to promote digital innovation in formal as well as informal public transportation.
- ❖ The challenge has 3 stages viz. Problem Identification, Solution Generation and Pilot Testing.
- ❖ More than 130 cities have taken part in the Stage I of the challenge, which was launched on April 15, 2021.
- ❖ 46 cities that qualified for Stage II used the survey data to develop more than 165 problem statement.

- ❖ Stage-2 of the challenge is currently open for startups to develop solutions for problems identified by the cities.

Citizen Perception Survey - 2022

- ❖ It is conducted as part of the Ease of Living Index.
- ❖ It was conducted for the first time in 2020.
- ❖ The purpose of the Survey is to directly capture the perception of citizens regarding the quality of life in their cities.
- ❖ It captures citizens' perceptive on public transport, education facilities, health care services, water availability, cost of living, employment opportunities, among others.
- ❖ The Ease of Living Index is a comprehensive assessment that evaluates cities across India based on their quality of life, economic ability and sustainability.
- ❖ The third round of this index was included as part of the Urban Outcomes Framework 2022.



ECONOMY

Self-Reliant India Fund

- ❖ Self-Reliant India Fund is Rs.10,000 crore fund launched by the Indian Government.
- ❖ It is a SEBI-registered category-II Alternative Investment Fund.
- ❖ It was launched by the Government to provide growth capital to MSME Sector.

- ❖ It operates via the mother-fund and daughter-fund (Fund of Funds) structure.
- ❖ The mother fund is the SEBI fund that invests up to 20 per cent of the overall corpus.
- ❖ The daughter fund raises the rest 80 per cent of the capital from the outside sources.



SELF RELIANT INDIA (SRI) FUND

The Fund structure leverages the strength of the private sector in providing growth capital to viable MSMEs having a definite growth plan.

FEATURES

- Ensures availability of growth capital to the MSMEs, through equity/ equity like structured instruments
- Supports faster growth of MSME businesses, thereby igniting the economy & creating several employment opportunities.
- Encourages MSMEs in moving towards listing on the Stock Exchanges, and growing beyond the bracket of MSME.
- Supports enterprises which have the potential to graduate beyond the MSME bracket and become National/International champions.




SRI Fund contributes towards achieving India's \$5 trillion GDP target by creating a vibrant MSME ecosystem, and making Aatmanirbhar Bharat

ENVIRONMENT

Carbon neutral tourist destination by 2041

- ❖ Mathura-Vrindavan aims to become a “net zero carbon emission” tourist destination by 2041.
- ❖ This means that tourist vehicles will be banned from the entire Braj region.
- ❖ It includes famous pilgrim centres such as Vrindavan and Krishna Janmabhoomi.
- ❖ Instead, only electric vehicles used as public transport will be allowed into the area.
- ❖ All 252 water bodies and 24 forests in the area will also be revived.

- ❖ The eight key cities of this region would also be connected through an inland waterways system and a narrow-gauge railway line.
- ❖ The existing 12.9 km narrow gauge railway line connecting the twin cities of Mathura and Vrindavan would be redeveloped.
- ❖ Net Zero Carbon Emission is referred to as carbon neutrality.
- ❖ It does not mean that a country/state would bring down its emissions to zero.
- ❖ But it is a state in which a country's/state's emissions are compensated by the absorption and removal of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere.

<p>PM MAKES FIVE PLEDGES</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 India will increase its non-fossil energy capacity to 500GW by 2030 2 India will meet 50% of its energy requirements from renewable energy by 2030 3 India will reduce the total projected carbon emissions by one billion tonnes from now to 2030 4 By 2030, India will reduce the carbon intensity of its economy by 45% (from a previous target of 35%) 5 By 2070, India will achieve the target of net zero 	<p>WHAT IS NET ZERO?</p> <p>Net zero refers to a balance where emissions of greenhouse gases are offset by the absorption of an equivalent amount from the atmosphere. Experts see net zero targets as a critical measure to successfully tackle climate change and its devastating consequences</p>
	<p>PLEDGES BY TOP THREE EMITTERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  CHINA: Beijing announced no new pledges on Monday. It previously pledged net zero by 2060.  UNITED STATES: The US touted domestic legislation to spend \$555bn to boost renewable power and electric vehicles. It has pledged net zero by 2050.  INDIA: The country's economy will become carbon neutral by the year 2070

REPORTS AND INDICES

QS Asia University Rankings 2023



- ❖ UK-based ranking authority Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) released a QS Asia University Rankings 2023.
- ❖ The 2023 ranking is the 15th edition.

- ❖ It highlights the top universities in the continent of Asia.
- ❖ The rankings are based on 11 indicators.
- ❖ The top performer is China's Peking University.
- ❖ It held second position in the 2022 ranking.
- ❖ Other top performers are National University of Singapore and China-based Tsinghua University.
- ❖ 5 universities from China secured their places in top 10 performers.
- ❖ A total of 118 Indian institutes featured in the ranking.
- ❖ 5 IITs, IISc and Delhi University entered the top 100 in the ranking.
- ❖ Total of 19 Indian universities featured in the top 200.
- ❖ IIT-Bombay (40) is the top performer in the ranking.
- ❖ The second-best performer in India is IIT Delhi (46th place).
- ❖ Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore was ranked at 52nd position.
- ❖ It followed by IIT Madras (53), IIT Kharagpur (61), IIT Kanpur (66), and Delhi University (85).

STATES

Vadodara municipal bond



- ❖ Vadodara became the second city in India to issue a municipal bond with assistance from the US Treasury Department's Office of Technical Assistance.
- ❖ The bond will provide funds for infrastructure projects in Vadodara.
- ❖ Municipal finance can help to pay for vital capital projects including roads, energy, water, sanitation, and other essentials.

- ❖ Pune was the first city to issue such a bond in 2017.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

International Kannadiga Rathna award 2022

- ❖ Yaduveer Krishnaraja Chamaraja Wadiyar has been chosen for the International Kannada Rathna award.
- ❖ He is a member of the former royal family.
- ❖ Dubai Kannadigas bestowed this award to commemorate Kannada Rajyothsava.



TELEMEDICON 2022



The poster for Telemedicon 2022 features a central graphic of a globe with a smartphone and various medical icons (cross, heart, microscope, clipboard). The text on the poster includes:

- TELEMEDICINE SOCIETY OF INDIA KERALA CHAPTER PRESENTS**
- TELEMEDICON 2022**
- DATE** 10, 11 & 12 November
- HIGHLIGHTS OF TELEMEDICON 2022**
 - Student Workshop - Telemedicine Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow
 - Abstract & Poster Presentations
 - Sessions covering topics such as important, innovative, and practice-changing research on any topic connected with digital technology in clinical medicine, public health, and global health
 - Artificial Intelligence in Telehealth Systems
 - Telemedicine in the alternate medical system (AYUSH)
 - Legal aspects in telemedicine, including privacy, security and confidentiality
 - IoMT (Internet of Medical Things)
 - Space Telemedicine Programs
 - Telehealth Tourism & more
- Logos for **AMRITA HOSPITAL**, **MedPiper**, and **JournoMED** are displayed at the bottom.

- ❖ The 18th Edition of the International Telemedicine Conference held at Amrita Hospital, Kochi.
- ❖ Telemedicine Society of India and Kerala Chapter host this event.

- ❖ It aims to build platforms involving healthcare regulators, health funding authorities, service providers, and international experts.
- ❖ The core theme of the event is ‘Strengthening Health Systems Through Sustainable Telemedicine and Digital Health’.

INCA Congress



- ❖ The 42nd International Congress of the Indian National Cartographic Association (INCA) held in Dehradun.
- ❖ It was organized by the National Hydrographic Office.
- ❖ The theme of the event is ‘Digital Cartography to Harness Blue Economy’.

MISCELLANEOUS

India’s First Sovereign Green Bonds Framework





- ❖ The Union Ministry of Finance & Corporate Affairs has approved the final Sovereign Green Bonds Framework of India.
- ❖ The Framework comes close on the footsteps of India's commitments under "Panchamrit" as explained by the Prime Minister at COP 26 at Glasgow in November 2021.
- ❖ Green bonds are issued by companies, countries and multilateral organisations to exclusively fund projects that have positive environmental or climate benefits and provide investors with fixed income payments.
- ❖ The projects include renewable energy, clean transportation and green buildings, among others.
- ❖ Proceeds from these bonds are reserved for green projects.

