



October - 12

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Union Railway Minister Piyush Goyal renamed the Naugarh railway station to Siddharthnagar railway station.
 - It is situated at Siddharthnagar district in Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ The government appointed senior banker Dinesh Kumar Khara as chairman of the State Bank of India.
 - He is replacing Rajnish Kumar.
- ❖ The Centre appointed RBI's senior-most Executive Director M. Rajeshwar Rao as Deputy Governor.
 - He succeeds N.S. Vishwanathan.

NATIONAL

First ever Brand & Logo for Indian Cotton

- ❖ Union Minister of Textiles, Smriti Irani has launched the first-ever Brand and Logo for Indian Cotton on Second World Cotton Day.
- ❖ Now India's premium cotton would be known as 'Kasturi Cotton' in the world cotton trade.
- ❖ The Kasturi Cotton brand will represent Whiteness, Brightness, Softness, Purity, Luster, Uniqueness and Indianness.
- ❖ India is the second-largest cotton producer and the largest consumer of cotton in the world.





ENVIRONMENT

60% Emission cut by 2030

- ❖ The European Union Parliament voted updating its climate target to reduce emissions by 60% by 2030 as compared to 1990 levels.
- ❖ Earlier EU had set a goal of reducing 40% emission by 2030.
- ❖ The World Wildlife Fund and other Non-Governmental Organizations were insisting on at least 65% emission reduction by 2030.
- ❖ The voting was held under the presidency of Germany.

Ratification of 7 Organic Pollutants

- ❖ Union Cabinet approved the ratification of seven Chemicals that are listed under Stockholm convention on persistent organic pollutants.
- ❖ Further, the cabinet delegated its powers of ratification to the union ministry of external affairs and ministry of environment, forest and climate change.
- ❖ These Ministries are already regulating the persistent organic pollutants under the domestic regulations.
- ❖ 7 persistent organic pollutants are:
 - Chlordecone
 - Hexabromobiphenyl
 - Hexabromodiphenyl ether and Heptabromodiphenylether (Commercial octa-BDE)
 - Tetrabromodiphenyl ether and Pentabromodiphenyl ether (Commercial penta-BDE)
 - Pentachlorobenzene
 - Hexabromocyclododecane
 - Hexachlorobutadiene

Stockholm Convention

- ❖ The Stockholm convention on persistent organic pollutants was held in 2001.
- ❖ It is a Treaty that was signed to protect environment and humans from persistent organic pollutants.
- ❖ Persistent organic pollutants are organic compounds that are resistant to environmental degradation through photolytic, chemical and biological processes.



Microplastics on sea floor

- ❖ CSIRO (Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation), an Australian government agency, has recently found that the world sea floor is littered with more than 14 million tonnes of microplastics.
- ❖ These microplastics have entered the floor through the breakdown of masses of rubbish entering the oceans annually.
- ❖ This is the first time the sea floor microplastic study has been carried out.
- ❖ Microplastics are small pieces of plastic that are of size 5 mm or less.
- ❖ They are mostly derived from the breaking down of larger plastic items.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

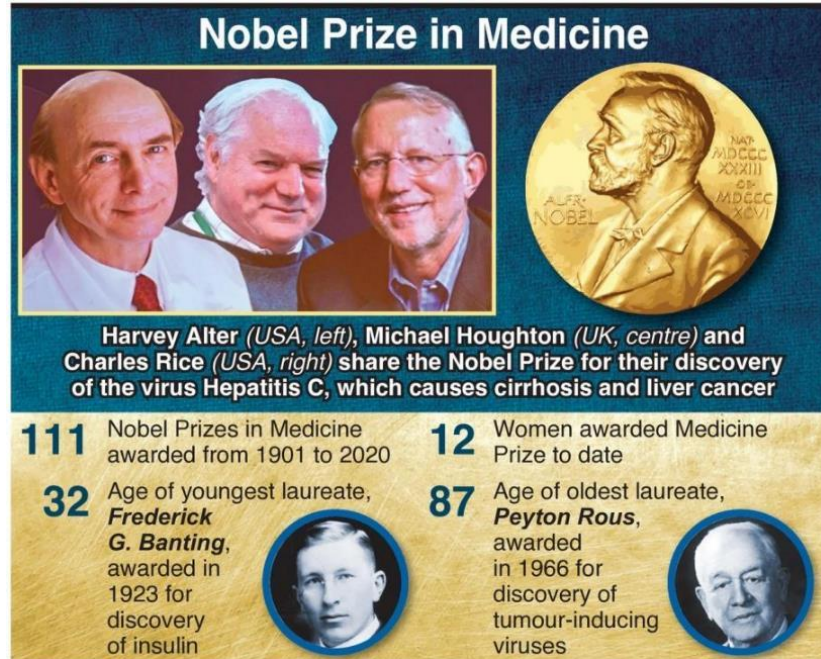
Nobel Prize for Medicine or Physiology

- ❖ Two American scientist Harvey J Alter and Charles M Rice and a British scientist Michael Houghton were awarded the Nobel Prize for Medicine or Physiology.
- ❖ The award has been conferred to them for the discovery of the hepatitis C virus.
- ❖ The trio's work helped explain a major source of blood-borne hepatitis that couldn't be explained by the hepatitis A and B viruses.
- ❖ Due to their discovery, highly sensitive blood tests for the virus are now available and these have essentially eliminated post-transfusion hepatitis in many parts of the world, greatly improving global health.
- ❖ Their discovery has allowed the rapid development of antiviral drugs directed at hepatitis C and for the first time in history, the disease can now be cured.

About Hepatitis:

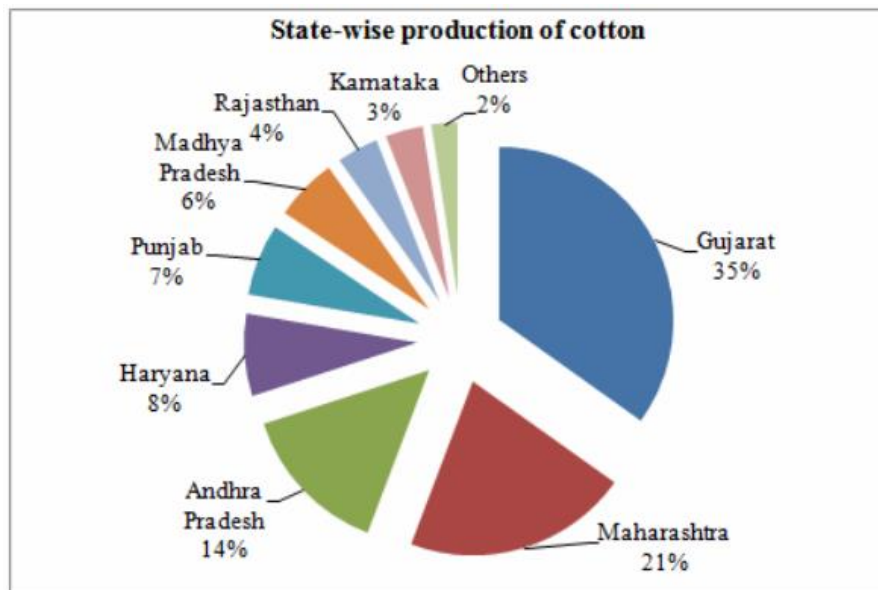
- ❖ Hepatitis is an inflammation of the liver.
- ❖ The condition can be self-limiting or can progress to fibrosis (scarring), cirrhosis or liver cancer.
- ❖ Hepatitis viruses are the most common cause of hepatitis but other infections, toxic substances and auto immune diseases can also cause hepatitis. There are five main types of hepatitis viruses namely A, B, C, D and E.
- ❖ Hepatitis A and E are typically caused by ingestion of contaminated food or water.
- ❖ Hepatitis B, C and D are transmitted through unsafe blood transfusions or contaminated needles/syringes, sexual-transmission or even mother-to-child transmission.

- ❖ Hepatitis A and B are preventable by vaccine.
- ❖ There is no vaccine for Hepatitis C.
- ❖ However, it can be treated with antiviral medication.



IMPORTANT DAYS

World Cotton Day – October 07



Source: Ministry of Agriculture, GoI



- ❖ World Cotton Day (WCD) is observed globally on 7th October since 2019.
- ❖ The international day aims to recognize the importance of cotton as a global commodity grown in over 75 countries across five continents.
- ❖ The day was inaugurated by the World Trade Organization (WTO) in Geneva.
- ❖ WCD Day was initiated by the Group of Cotton-4 countries namely Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad and Mali.
- ❖ About 80 per cent of the world's production comes from Brazil, China, India, Pakistan, the United States and Uzbekistan.
- ❖ India amounts to approximately 23% of the world cotton.

MISCELLANEOUS

Wildlife Week – October 02/08

- ❖ Wildlife Week is annually celebrated across India between 2nd to 8th October with an aim to protect and preserve the flora and fauna of India.
- ❖ The first Wildlife Week was observed in 1957.
- ❖ Wildlife Week 2020 marks the 66th Wildlife Week.
- ❖ It was celebrated under the theme 'Roar (Roar and Revive) – Exploring Human-Animal Relationships'.

