



October - 25

TNPSC BITS

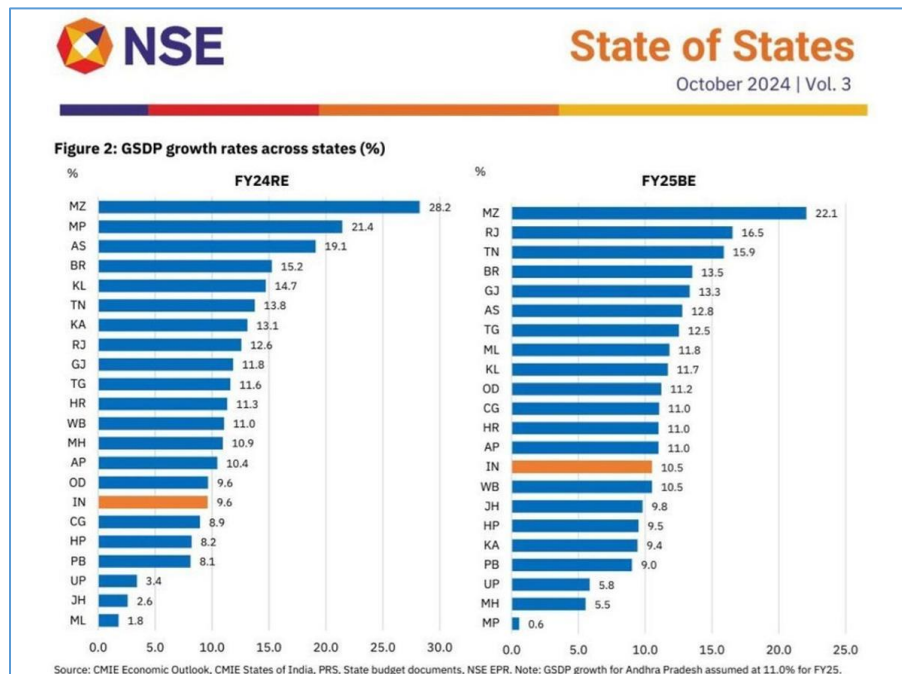
- ❖ Chennai Metro Rail's first driverless train for the phase II project is likely to have its first trial run on October 26.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government will provide 100 e-autos to 'climate warriors', women from Self Help Groups, to enhancing climate awareness among the public and creating livelihood opportunities for these women.
- ❖ IIT Madras is set to launch its first international flagship centre in Dubai for research, innovation, and entrepreneurship in early 2025.
- ❖ The Andhra Pradesh government decided to do away with the two-child policy for individuals having more than two children from contesting local body polls.
- ❖ Pakistan's Senate passed the controversial 26th Constitution Amendment Bill, which capping Pakistan's Chief Justice tenure for three years.
- ❖ Egypt has been declared malaria-free by the WHO, making it the second country globally to achieve this status in 2024 after Cabo Verde.
- ❖ Kargil district's Kaksar Bridge (Ladakh) was renamed Capt. Amit Bhardwaj Setu to honor the sacrifice of Capt. Amit Bhardwaj during the Kargil War.
- ❖ HDFC Bank, India's leading private sector bank, inaugurated its first branch in Singapore to provide banking services in Singapore.
- ❖ 6th Assembly of International Solar Alliance is to be held in New Delhi.
- ❖ The Indian Railways have reduced the advance reservation period from 120 days to 60 days, effective from November 1.
- ❖ The Centre of Excellence in Ayurveda Research to be established on the campus of the CSIR-National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology (NIIST) at Pappanamcode.

TAMIL NADU

Gross State Domestic Product 2023-24

- ❖ Tamil Nadu's Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) grew 8.13% in 2022-23 and 8.23% in 2023-24 at constant prices.
- ❖ In current prices, the growth rates were 15.48% in 2022-23 and 13.71% in 2023-24.
- ❖ The growth rates for the All India GDP were 6.99% in 2022-23 and 8.15% in 2023-24 at constant prices.

- ❖ In current prices, they were 14.21% in 2022-23 and 9.60% in 2023-24.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu ranked second in GSDP at current prices, only behind Maharashtra.
- ❖ The Tamilnadu state has stood third in GSDP at constant prices, being surpassed by Maharashtra and Gujarat, in 2022-23.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu's inflation rates were 5.97% in 2022-23 and 5.37% in 2023-24.
- ❖ The All-India inflation rates was 6.65% and 5.38% during the respective periods.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu's per capita income was estimated at ₹1,66,590 in 2022-23 and ₹1,79,732 in 2023-24.
- ❖ India's per capita income of ₹99,404 in 2022-23 and ₹1,06,744 in 2023-24 at constant prices.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu's per capita incomes were 1.68 times the national per capita income for both years.

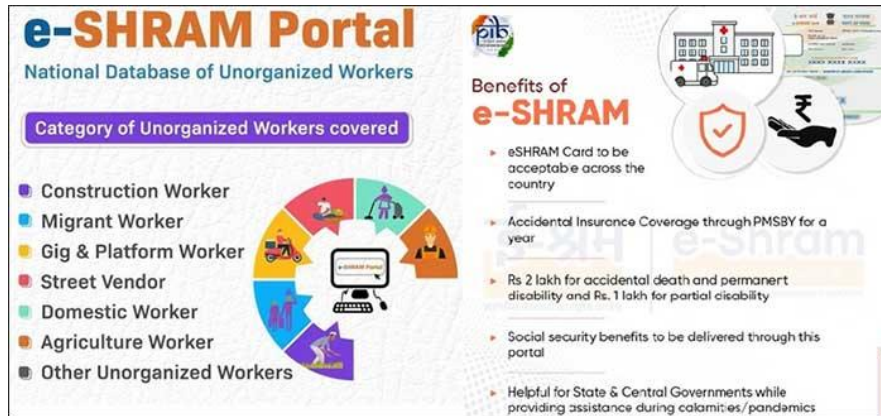


NATIONAL

e-Shram – One Stop Solution

- ❖ Union Ministry of Labour & Employment launched eShram One Stop Solution in New Delhi.
- ❖ The primary purpose of the portal is to simplify the registration process for unorganised workers and facilitate their access to government welfare schemes.

- ❖ It will provide seamless access of the different Social Security Schemes to the unorganised workers registered on eShram.



e-SHRAM Portal
National Database of Unorganized Workers

Category of Unorganized Workers covered

- Construction Worker
- Migrant Worker
- Gig & Platform Worker
- Street Vendor
- Domestic Worker
- Agriculture Worker
- Other Unorganized Workers

Benefits of e-SHRAM

- eSHRAM Card to be acceptable across the country
- Accidental Insurance Coverage through PMSBY for a year
- Rs 2 lakh for accidental death and permanent disability and Rs. 1 lakh for partial disability
- Social security benefits to be delivered through this portal
- Helpful for State & Central Governments while providing assistance during calamities/pandemics

Section 6A of the Citizenship Act of 1955

ASSAM ACCORD CLAUSE 5 & CITIZENSHIP

IN 1979, All Assam Students Union (AASU) began an agitation demanding the identification and deportation of "illegal foreigners", predominantly from Bangladesh. The agitation went on for six years, culminating with the historic Assam Accord between the Central and state governments, and the leaders of the Assam Movement.

CLAUSE 5 of the Accord, which discussed the "Foreigners Issue", set January 1, 1966 as the "base date and year" for the "purposes of detection and deletion [from electoral rolls] of foreigners". Those who arrived after this date but up to March 24, 1971, would "have their names deleted

from electoral rolls" for 10 years, after which their names would be restored.

IN 1985, in order to give effect to the Assam Accord, Section 6A was introduced in The Citizenship Act, 1955. The petitioners argued that this section was arbitrary and discriminatory, as it applied only to Assam.

THE CAA, 2019, introduced another group-specific section, Section 6B, in The Citizenship Act, which set December 31, 2014 as the cutoff date for Hindu, Christian, Sikh, Parsi, Buddhist, and Jain migrants from the Muslim majority countries of Pakistan, Bangladesh, Afghanistan.

- ❖ A Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court has upheld the constitutionality of Section 6A of the Citizenship Act, 1955.
- ❖ It permits immigrants from Bangladesh residing in Assam to secure the Indian citizenship.
- ❖ The principle of fraternity cannot be selectively applied to one section living in Assam while another lot are labelled "illegal immigrants".

- ❖ The immigrants who entered Assam on or after March 25 of 1971 were liable to be detected, detained and deported.
- ❖ Section 6A traces its roots to the political solution of Assam Accord of 1985.
- ❖ It mandates that immigrants who entered Assam from Bangladesh prior to January 1, 1966 would be deemed to be Indian citizens.
- ❖ Those who entered into the State between January 1, 1966 and March 25, 1971 would be conferred citizenship based on the fulfilment of specific procedures and conditions.
- ❖ The Section however barred citizenship to those who entered Assam after March 25, 1971.
- ❖ The Pakistani Army had launched Operation Searchlight to curb the Bengali nationalist movement in East Pakistan on March 26, 1971.

INTERNATIONAL

Click-to-Cancel Rule

The FTC's "Click to Cancel" Rule

This rule is helping the FTC get money back to people who are misled, and addressing common problems:

- ▶ Sellers who don't tell the truth or leave out necessary information.
- ▶ People who get billed when they didn't agree to pay.
- ▶ Sellers who make it hard — or impossible — to cancel.



- ❖ The United States' Federal Trade Commission (FTC) will soon implement a "click-to-cancel" rule.
- ❖ It will make it significantly easier for consumers to cancel their subscriptions and memberships.
- ❖ Requiring multiple taps or hiding the setting under multiple pages of settings will be prohibited.
- ❖ It will also make companies liable to face civil penalties for complicating the cancellation process.
- ❖ 2022 Research found that 42% of consumers had forgotten they were paying for services they did not use.



- ❖ That Customers generally underestimated the monthly cost of their subscriptions by an average of \$133.

World's freest economy 2024

- ❖ The 2024 "Economic Freedom of the World" report was compiled by the Fraser Institute.
- ❖ Hong Kong regains title as world's freest economy from Singapore.
- ❖ Coming in at No. 3 was Switzerland, followed by New Zealand and the US.
- ❖ At 165th place, Venezuela ranked last with a score of 3.02.
- ❖ The rankings of other major economies include Japan at No 11, Britain at No 12, Taiwan at No 19, India at No 84 and mainland China at 104.



ECONOMY

India's Direct Tax Collections – FY 2023/24

- ❖ The Financial Year (FY) 2023-24 has seen a significant increase in the Direct Tax collections, with provisional figures showing net collections at ₹19.58 lakh crore.
- ❖ This represents a 17.70% increase from the ₹16.64 lakh crore collected in FY 2022-23.



- ❖ The Union Budget had initially estimated Direct Tax revenue for FY 2023-24 at ₹18.23 lakh crore.
- ❖ However, this was later revised to ₹19.45 lakh crore.
- ❖ The provisional Direct Tax collections have exceeded these Revised Estimates by 0.67%, and the original Budget Estimates by 7.40%.
- ❖ Before adjusting for refunds, the Gross collection of Direct Taxes for FY 2023-24 stands at ₹23.37 lakh crore.
- ❖ It is marking an 18.48% growth from the ₹19.72 lakh crore collected in FY 2022-23.
- ❖ The Gross Personal Income Tax collection (including STT) for FY 2023-24 is ₹12.01 lakh crore.
- ❖ This is a 24.26% increase from the previous year's ₹9.67 lakh crore.

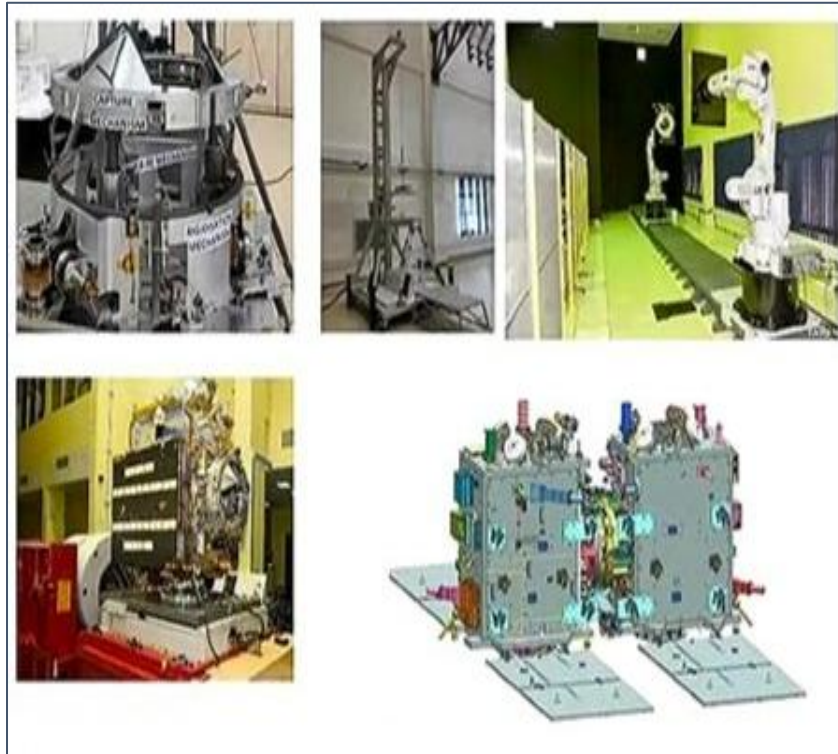
Fiscal year	Direct tax to GDP ratio		Cost of direct tax collection	
	Tax-GDP ratio (in %)	Collection (in Rs cr)	Expenditure (in Rs cr)	Cost of collection (in %)
2014-15	5.55%	6,95,792	4,101	0.59%
2015-16	5.47%	7,41,945	4,593	0.61%
2016-17	5.53%	8,49,713	5,578	0.66%
2017-18	5.86%	10,02,738	6,087	0.61%
2018-19	6.02%	11,37,718	7,074	0.62%
2019-20	5.23%	10,50,681	6,952	0.66%
2020-21	4.78%	9,47,176	7,223	0.76%
2021-22	5.97%	14,12,422	7,479	0.53%
2022-23	6.11%	16,63,686	8,452	0.51%
2023-24	6.64%	19,60,166	8,634	0.44%

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

SPADEX Docking Mission

- ❖ ISRO got two 400kg satellites that are part of a crucial upcoming mission known as SPADEX – Space Docking Experiment.

- ❖ These satellites will be travelling at around 28,000 kmph and precisely align themselves in a manner where they can perform a 'space handshake' and dock to form a single orbiting entity.
- ❖ Ananth Technologies Private Limited (ATL) has completed the integration of two 400kg satellites for ISRO.
- ❖ This is the first time that ISRO is getting their satellites completely assembled, integrated and tested by the Indian private industry at a private facility.



ENVIRONMENT

Temperature rise in key biodiversity areas

- ❖ Up to 66 per cent of key biodiversity areas (KBAs) in tropical forests have recently entered a Mean annual temperature regime.
- ❖ KBAs are sites contributing significantly to the global persistence of biodiversity in terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems.
- ❖ The proportion of KBAs with new temperature regimes was 72 per cent in Africa, 59 per cent in Latin America and 49 per cent in Asia and Oceania.
- ❖ The 2.9 per cent of KBAs in Latin America and 4.9 per cent in Asia and Oceania have recently transitioned to almost entirely novel temperature regimes.
- ❖ Only 0.02 per cent of KBAs in Asia and Oceania remained almost stable.

- ❖ 34 per cent of tropical forest KBAs are not yet experiencing the new temperature regimes.



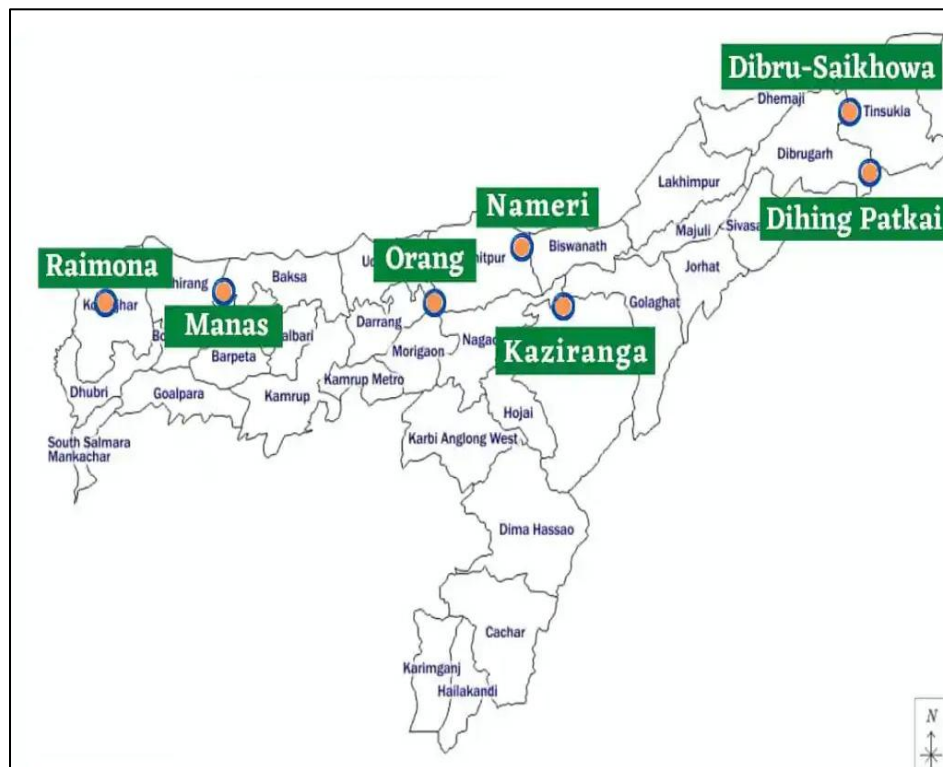
Koalas - Extinction risk



- ❖ At one point, there were millions of Koalas, a eucalyptus-munching tree climber.
- ❖ Now, there are anywhere between 95,000 and 524,000 left in Australia.
- ❖ The government officially listed East Coast koalas as 'endangered' in 2022.

- ❖ Chlamydia is a common sexually transmitted infection (STI) caused by the bacteria Chlamydia trachomatis.
- ❖ It was first observed in koalas about 50 years ago.
- ❖ In the times that followed it has wiped out entire local populations.
- ❖ Their populations have plummeted to between 95,000 and 524,000.
- ❖ Now, Australia has become the 'extinction capital' of the world.
- ❖ This island nation is having the highest rate of mammal extinction in the world,
- ❖ About 100 of the country's unique flora and fauna species wiped out in the last 123 years.

India's second butterfly diversity hub

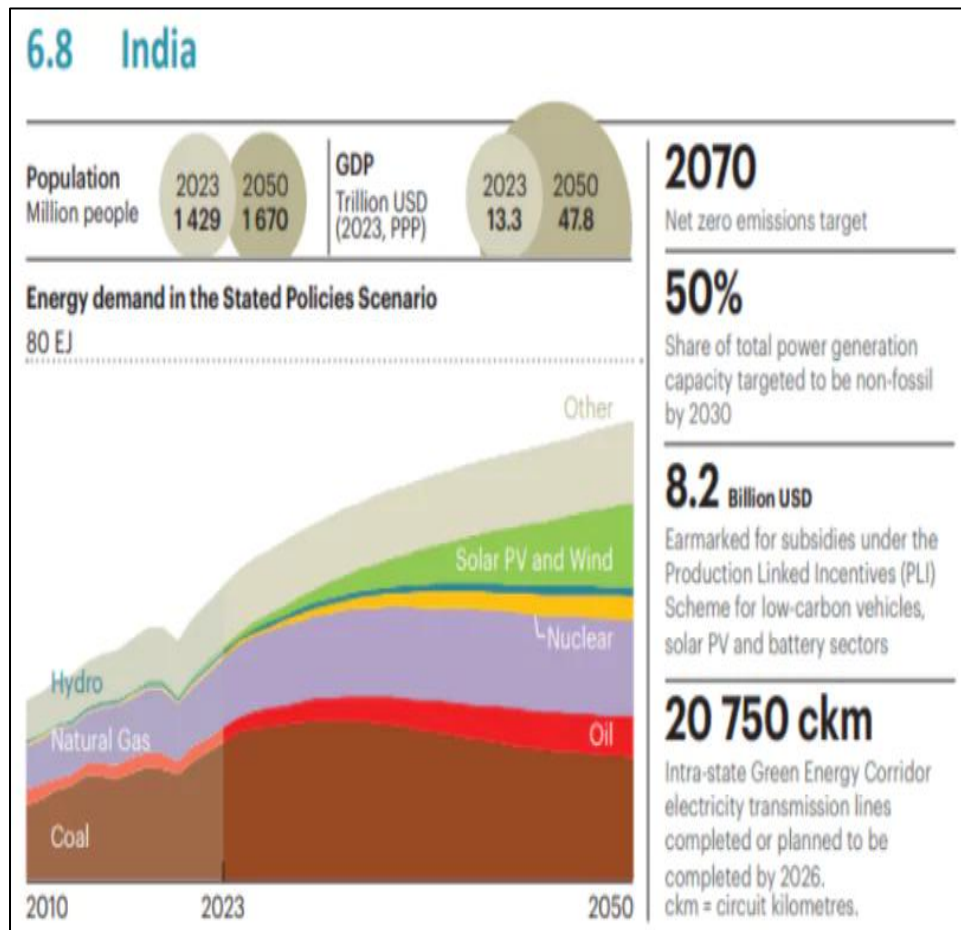


- ❖ Assam's Kaziranga National Park has earned the distinction of being the second butterfly diversity hub, after Namdapha National Park in Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ Butterfly Conservation Meet, the first of its kind, was held in September, this year to check the status of the butterflies.
- ❖ More than 446 butterfly species have been reported from the park.
- ❖ 18 of 446 butterfly species are new in India.

- ❖ This national park is spread across the districts of Golaghat, Sonitpur, Biswanath and Nagaon in Assam.
- ❖ The park is home to two-thirds of the world's Indian rhinoceroses and is considered a UNESCO world heritage site.

REPORTS AND INDICES

World Energy Outlook 2024



- ❖ The report is published by the International Energy Agency (IEA) and provides key energy trends and projections.
- ❖ In 2023 alone, over 560 gigawatts (GW) of the renewable capacity were added globally.
- ❖ By 2030, the renewable energy is expected to become the dominant source of electricity, surpassing coal, oil, and gas.
- ❖ The global electric vehicle (EV) market is rapidly expanding, with EVs expected to account for 50% of new car sales by 2030.

- ❖ India is on track to become the third-largest economy in the world by 2028.
- ❖ By 2035, iron and steel production are on track to grow by 70%.
- ❖ The cement output is set to rise by nearly 55%.
- ❖ The stock of air conditioners is projected to grow by over 4.5 times.
- ❖ It will be resulting in electricity demand from air conditioners in 2035 more than Mexico's total expected consumption that year.
- ❖ The total energy demand in India is set to increase by nearly 35% by 2035.
- ❖ Its electricity generation capacity will nearly triple to 1400 GW.

The Unjust Climate report



- ❖ FAO economist presented the report “The unjust climate. Measuring the impacts of climate change on rural poor, women, and youth”.
- ❖ Farm income sources of the rural poor in India were affected in different ways depending on the type of climate stress.
- ❖ Poor households globally lose 5% of their total income in an average year due to heat stress and 4.4% due to floods compared with households that are relatively better off.

- ❖ Floods, globally, widen the income gap between poor and non-poor households in rural areas by approximately \$21 billion a year.
- ❖ Heat stress widen the gaps by more than \$20 billion a year.
- ❖ A 1° C increase in average long-term temperatures leads to a 53% increase in the farm incomes of poor households and a 33% decrease in their off-farm incomes, relative to non-poor households.


STATES

Dalit sub-quotas System – Haryana

- ❖ Recently the Haryana SC commission had recommended subclassifying the Dalit communities into following two categories.
 - The deprived scheduled castes (DSC) comprising 36 groups such as Balmikis, Dhanaks, Mazhabi Sikhs and Khatiks, and
 - Other scheduled castes (OSC) comprising castes such as Chamar, Jatia Chamar, Rehgar, Raigar, Ramdasi, Ravidasi and Jatav.
- ❖ During the first meeting of the newly elected state cabinet had approved the proposal.
- ❖ Now each subgroup gets 50% of the 20% SC quota for government jobs.

FACT SHEET

- Haryana has 20.2% SCs (2011 Census)
- It has 20% quota for SCs in government jobs and education
- An SC commission recommended 10% sub-quota for 'deprived SCs', such as Balmikis, Dhanaks and others



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award 2024

- ❖ The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees will present its annual Nansen Award to 5 people.

- ❖ This year's winners are
 - Jin Davod, is a young social entrepreneur.
 - Sister Rosita Milesi (Brazil), a nun, lawyer, social worker.
 - Maimouna Ba (Africa), an activist from Burkina Faso.
 - Nada Fadol (Middle East & North Africa), a Sudanese refugee.
 - Deepti Gurung (Asia-Pacific), who campaigned to reform Nepal's citizenship laws.
 - Jin Davod, Europe - a young social entrepreneur.
- ❖ The Nansen Award was established in 1954 in the honour of the Norwegian humanitarian, scientist, explorer, and diplomat Fridtjof Nansen.

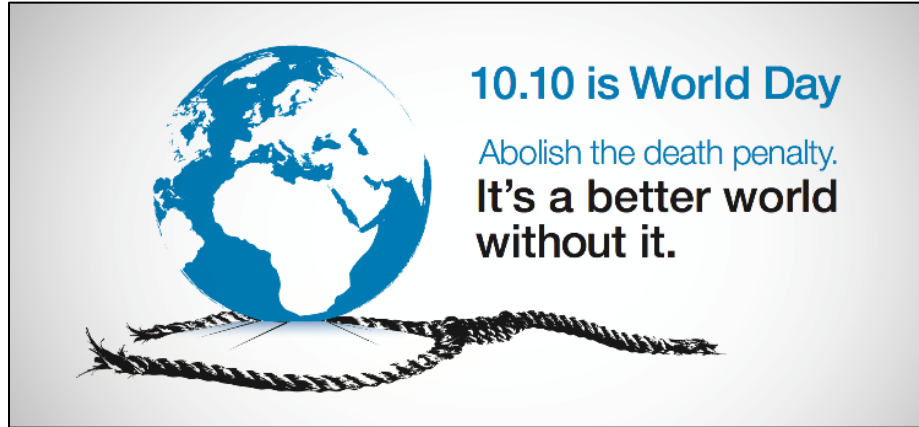


IMPORTANT DAYS

World Day against Death Penalty 2024 - October 10

- ❖ The day encourages and consolidates the political and general awareness of the worldwide movement against the death penalty.
- ❖ This year celebration dedicated to challenging the misconception that the death penalty can make people and communities safer.
- ❖ 112 nations have abolished the death penalty for all crimes.

- ❖ The 5 countries that executed the most in the world in 2023 are, in order: China, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Somalia and the USA.
- ❖ At least 27,687 individuals are known to be under a sentence of death around the world at the end of 2023.



World Osteoporosis Day 2024 - October 20

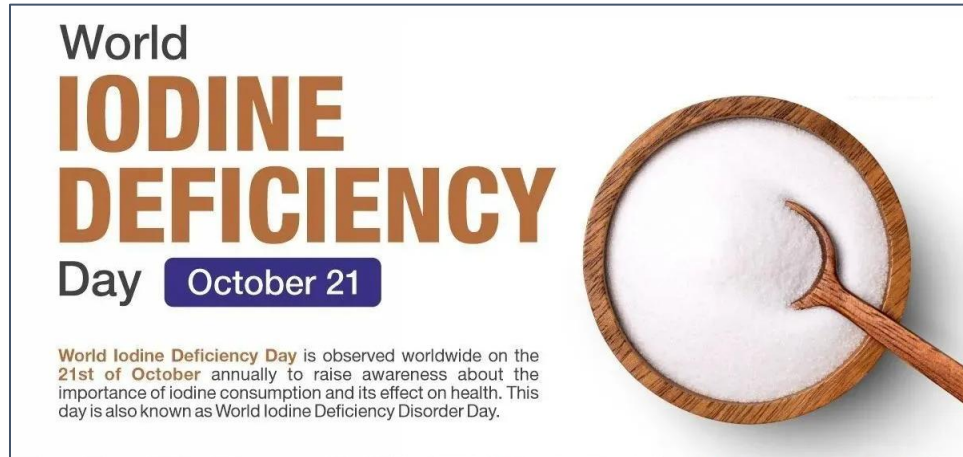


- ❖ It aims to raise awareness around the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of osteoporosis and metabolic bone disease.
- ❖ Osteoporosis is a metabolic bone disease wherein your new bone formation doesn't keep up with the loss of old bone.
- ❖ In India, about 23 percent of children suffer from osteoporosis.
- ❖ About 37 percent of the Elderly are diagnosed to have osteoporosis, whereas about 18 % of the adults have osteoporosis.

World Iodine Deficiency Day 2024 - October 21

- ❖ It aims to raise awareness about the importance of iodine consumption and its effect on health.
- ❖ This day is also known as World Iodine Deficiency Disorder Day.
- ❖ It causes significant health problems in 130 countries and affects 74 crore people.

- ❖ One-third (33%) of the world's population is exposed to the risk of the Iodine Deficiency Disorder (IDD).
- ❖ In India, more than 6.1 crore people are suffering from endemic goitre and 88 lakh people suffer from mental/ physical disabilities.



MISCELLANEOUS

Statue of Lady Justice



- ❖ The Supreme Court has recently unveiled a new statue of "Lady Justice" with no blindfold.
- ❖ The blindfold in the classic rendition has been popularly understood to represent the impartiality of justice.



- ❖ It holds scales on one hand and the Indian Constitution (instead of sword) on the other.
- ❖ The new statue with unimpeded vision is meant to signify that “Law is not blind; it sees everyone equally.”
- ❖ This has been designed by Vinod Goswami, a muralist from College of Art in Delhi.
- ❖ The imagery of Lady Justice can be traced back to Greek and Roman mythology.
- ❖ The first Roman emperor Augustus (27 BCE-14 CE) introduced the worship of Justice in the form of a goddess known as Justitia (or Iustitia).
- ❖ At the Calcutta High Court — first constructed in 1872 — images of Lady Justice were carved into the pillars supporting the building.

