

September - 03

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Former Chief Justice of India (CJI) N.V. Ramana has been appointed as member of the International Mediator Panel of Singapore International Mediation Centre (SIMC).
- ❖ NITI Aayog and UNDP India have signed a MoU to formalise a framework of cooperation on a range of areas, including SDG localisation, data-driven monitoring, Aspirational Districts and Blocks, among others.
- ❖ ACME Group has partnered with Tata Steel Special Economic Zone Ltd to establish a green hydrogen and green ammonia project at the Gopalpur Industrial Park in Odisha.

NATIONAL

Air pollution and life

WORST-HIT NATIONS		
Country	PM2.5*	Years lost**
B'desh	74	6.8
India	58.7	5.3
Nepal	51.7	4.6
Pakistan	44.7	3.9
Mongolia	36	3

- ❖ Fine particulate air pollution (PM2.5) is estimated to shorten an average Indian's life expectancy by 5.3 years.
- ❖ All of India's 1.3 billion people live in areas where the annual average particulate pollution level exceeds the WHO guideline.
- ❖ About 67.4 per cent of the population live in areas that exceed the country's own national air quality standard of 40 µg/m³.



- ❖ Delhi resident may lose up to 8.5 years if the country's national ambient air quality standards (40 µg/m³) are not met.
- ❖ From 1998 to 2021, average annual particulate pollution increased by 67.7 per cent.
- ❖ It is further reducing average life expectancy by 2.3 years.
- ❖ In South Asia, particulate pollution has increased 9.7 per cent from 2013 to 2021.
- ❖ In India, PM_{2.5} levels rose 9.5 per cent; in Pakistan 8.8 per cent; and in Bangladesh, levels rose by 12.4.

INTERNATIONAL

Global Fund for HIV



- ❖ The Global Fund to Fight AIDS announced the successful conclusion of the first summit focused on their strategic partnership with India.
- ❖ It secures a deal with generic pharmaceutical manufacturers to significantly slash the price of a cutting-edge HIV drug.
- ❖ The Global Fund is a partnership set up in 2002 to battle AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.
- ❖ The agreement would make it possible to provide the advanced pill known as TLD for under \$45 per person per year.

Gabon Military coup

- ❖ Military officers of Central African nation Gabon announced that they have taken power "on behalf of the Gabonese people".

- ❖ President Ali Bongo currently remains under house arrest.
- ❖ He had won a third term in recent election.
- ❖ The nation has little more than 2 million people.
- ❖ France occupied Gabon in 1885.
- ❖ In 1910, Gabon became one of the four territories of French Equatorial Africa.
- ❖ On 15 July 1960, Gabon gained independence from France.
- ❖ It is located on the Atlantic Ocean, and borders Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, and the Republic of Congo.

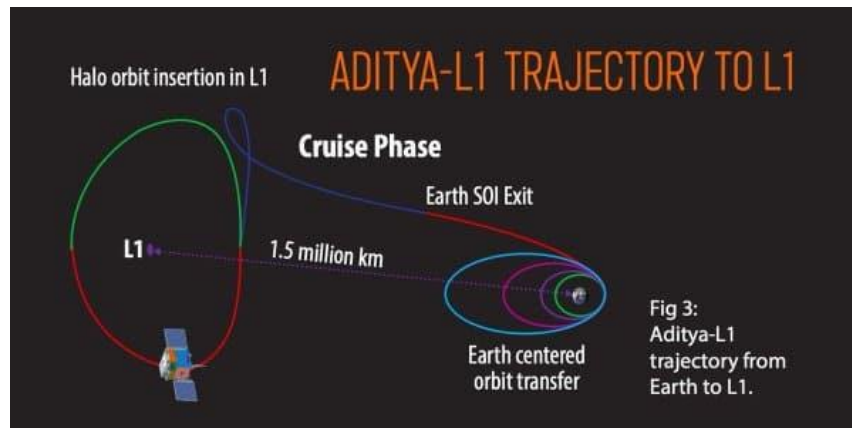


SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Aditya L1 Mission

- ❖ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has launched Aditya L-1, its first space-based mission to study the Sun.
- ❖ The solar probe was carried into space by the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) in 'XL' configuration.
- ❖ The rocket is most powerful in the 'XL' configuration as it is equipped with six extended strap-on boosters.
- ❖ PSLV-XL can lift 1,750 kg of payloads to the sun-synchronous polar orbit.

- ❖ The spacecraft will finally be stationed in a halo orbit around the Lagrange point 1 (L1) of the Sun-Earth system.
- ❖ It is about 1.5 million km from the Earth.
- ❖ The Aditya L-1 will cover its journey to the L1 point in about four months.
- ❖ There are essentially seven payloads on the Aditya L-1.
- ❖ The mission's main objective is to expand our knowledge of the Sun, and how its radiation, heat, flow of particles, and magnetic fields affect us.
- ❖ Lagrange points are the points where gravitational pull of the celestial bodies equals the centripetal force required to keep a smaller third body in orbit.



Mahendragiri - India's New Warship



- ❖ Indian Navy's latest warship 'Mahendragiri' was launched recently.
- ❖ The project is the seventh warship of Project 17A.
- ❖ Project 17A frigates are a follow-on to the Project 17 (Shivalik class) frigates.

- ❖ Mahendragiri is the last stealth frigate of Project 17A.

RAMBHA-LP



- ❖ RAMBHA-LP payload onboard Chandrayaan-3 Lander has made first-ever measurements of the near-surface Lunar plasma environment over the south polar region.
- ❖ RAMBHA-LP stands for Radio Anatomy of Moon Bound Hypersensitive ionosphere and Atmosphere - Langmuir Probe.
- ❖ The initial assessment indicates that the plasma near the lunar surface is relatively sparse.
- ❖ These quantitative measurements potentially assist in mitigating the noise that Lunar plasma introduces into radio wave communication.
- ❖ Also, they could contribute to the enhanced designs for upcoming lunar visitors.

Brain-Computer Interface


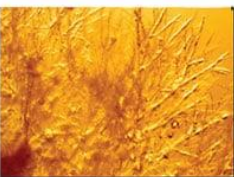

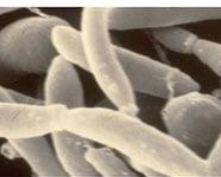
- ❖ Scientists have developed a device that can translate paralysed people's brain signals into words at faster speeds than before.
- ❖ This is a step towards restoring communication to people with severe paralysis.

- ❖ This BCIs are capable of decoding brain activity into speech faster, more accurately and covering larger vocabulary than existing technologies.
- ❖ This will help those People with neurological disorders, including brainstem stroke or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, often face speech loss due to paralysis of muscles.



ENVIRONMENT

Funga Campaign

Phycomycetes (Lower Fungi)	Ascomycetes (Sac Fungi)	Basidiomycetes (Club Fungi)	Deuteromycetes (Fungi imperfecti)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saprolegnia • Rhizopus • Mucor • Albugo • Pythium 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yeast • Aspergillus • Pencillium • Neurospora • Peziza 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agaricus • Polyporus • Puccinia • Ustilago • Lycoperdon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cercospora • Collectotrichum • Trichoderma • Pyricularia • Fusarium
			
Rhizopus	Neurospora	Agaricus	Fusarium

- ❖ The United Nations Biodiversity has initiated a campaign urging the global community to incorporate the term “funga” alongside “flora and fauna”.
- ❖ It aims to emphasize the significance of fungi.
- ❖ The UN aims to elevate fungi’s importance to the same level as plants and animals in conservation efforts.
- ❖ This initiative highlights the impact of language on shaping perceptions and policy decisions.

- ❖ Earlier, the Species Survival Commission (SSC) of the IUCN announced that it would use “mycologically inclusive”.
- ❖ Fungi or fungus are a diverse group of eukaryotic microorganisms.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Miss Earth India 2023

- ❖ Priyan Sain clinched the title of Miss Earth India 2023 during the Miss Divine Beauty 2023.
- ❖ She succeeds last year's winner Vanshika Parmar.
- ❖ She will represent India at the Miss Earth 2023 pageant in Vietnam this December.
- ❖ At the same event, Praveena Aanjna was named Miss International India 2023.
- ❖ Pema Choden Bhutia and Tejaswini Shrivastava were both announced as runners-up.



IMPORTANT DAYS

World Coconut Day 2023 - September 02

- ❖ The Asian and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC), has started the initiative of celebrating World Coconut Day in 2009.
- ❖ APCC is headquartered in Jakarta, Indonesia.
- ❖ It was founded in 1969 to support the growth, production, sell and export of coconuts in Asian countries.

- ❖ India, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, Kenya and Vietnam are some of the countries that are members of APCC.

