

### NATIONAL

#### 1. Geological park

**Why in news** - The Geological Survey of India (GSI) has approved the setting up of India's first geo park in Madhya Pradesh.

##### Key Points –

- Location - Lamheta village, Jabalpur (MP) on the banks of the Narmada river.
- Purpose - Protection and use of geological heritage.
- Dinosaur fossils had been found in the Bhedaghat-Lameta Ghat area, Jabalpur (Narmada valley).
- In 1828, the first dinosaur fossil was collected from the Lameta Bed by William Sleeman.
- Bhedaghat (Jabalpur) - Known for white marble rock formations.

#### 2. H3N2 virus

**Why in news** - India has recorded two deaths one each in Karnataka and Haryana due to the Influenza A subtype H3N2 virus.

##### Key Points –

- Influenza viruses are of four different types: A, B, C and D.
- H3N2 caused the 1968 flu pandemic that led to the death of around 10 lakh people globally.

##### About the H3N2 virus –

- Symptoms - cough, fever, body ache and headache, sore throat etc.
- Usual prey - Individuals below the age of 15 years or above 50 years of age.
- Oseltamivir - Antiviral medication used to treat and prevent influenza A and influenza B.

#### 3. Vote Fest 2023

**Why in news** - Election Commission of India (ECI) inaugurated Vote Fest 2023 in Bengaluru.

##### Key Points –

- Aim - to create awareness on the election process.
- Also. inaugurated Election 2023 - A 30-hour hackathon for securing the electoral future.
- ECI song - Main Bharat Hoon, Hum Bharat Ke Matdata Hai.
- Chief Election Commissioner - Rajiv Kumar.

#### 4. Gold deposits in Odisha

**Why in news** - Geological Survey of India (GSI) has found gold deposits in 3 districts of Odisha.

##### Key Points –

- 3 districts - Deogarh, Keonjhar and Mayurbhanj.
- 3 working gold mines in India –
  - a) Hutti mines (Karnataka)
  - b) Uti mines (Karnataka)
  - c) Hirabuddini mines (Jharkhand).
- India's gold annual consumption - 774 tonnes. (production - 1.6 tonnes).
- Gold often occurs in free elemental state (native state).
- Gold is found as placer deposits, nuggets or grains in rocks, veins, and alluvial deposits.

### GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

#### 1. MSME Competitive (LEAN) Scheme

**Why in news** - Narayan Rane launched the scheme on March 10, 2023.

##### Key Points –

- By - Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.
- Aim – To make handholding and consulting more affordable for MSMEs who intend to reduce wastages in their manufacturing process.
- Subsidy limit increased to 90%. (earlier – 80%) on implementation cost of the consultant fees.
- Lean manufacturing techniques - Minimizing waste within manufacturing systems while simultaneously maximizing productivity.
- It would be done at 3 levels – basic, intermediate, and advanced.
- Completion of each stage will be verified through agencies like the National Productivity Council and Quality Council of India.

### REPORTS & INDICES

#### 1. 5th World Air Quality Report

**Why in news** - 5th World Air Quality Report prepared by IQAir was released recently.

### Key Points –

- It based on the annual average level of pollutant PM2.5 in air.
- The report makes a distinction between New Delhi and Delhi.
- Most polluted city in India – Bhiwadi (PM - 92.7) in Rajasthan.
- Most polluted metropolitan city - Delhi (PM - 92.6).
- Second most polluted capital city - New Delhi (89.1).
- Most polluted –

### About IQAir –

- A Swiss air quality technology company.
- Based on PM2.5 data from 7,323 cities and 131 countries.

1		Lahore, Pakistan	97.4
2		Hotan, China	94.3
3		Bhiwadi, India	92.7
4		Delhi, India	92.6
5		Peshawar, Pakistan	91.8

### Air Quality Index (AQI) (2014) –

- By – Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (Central Pollution Control Board).
- Higher the AQI, the worse the air.
- 6 categories of AQI - 'Good' (0-50), 'Satisfactory' (50-100), 'Moderately polluted' (100-200), 'Poor' (200-300), 'Very Poor' (300-400), and 'Severe' (400-500).
- Pollutants measured – PM 2.5, PM 10, Ozone (O3), Carbon Monoxide (CO), Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2), Sulphur Dioxide (SO2), Lead (Pb) and Ammonia (NH3).

- Recommended by - IIT Kanpur.
- Graded Response Action Plan - Specifically instituted for emergency measures to prevent further deterioration of air quality in Delhi-NCR.

## AWARDS & HONOURS

### 1. Vyas Samman 2022

**Why in news** – Dr. Gyan Chaturvedi to be honoured with the prestigious 32nd Vyas Samman 2022.

#### Key Points –

- For his book – Pagalkhana (mental asylum), a satirical novel.
- His first novel, Narak-Yatra (trip to hell) - Based on the education system of India's medical science.
- The award was instituted by the KK Birla Foundation in 1991.

## SPORTS

### 1. 38th National Games

**Why in news** – 38th National Games would be held in Uttarakhand in the year 2024.

#### Key Points –

- Indian Olympic Association (IOA) President - PT Usha.

## BIHAR

### 1. Book "Bihar- That Was...and Now"

**Why in news** – Honourable CM Nitish Kumar released the Coffee Table Book 'Bihar- That Was... and Now'.

#### Key Points –

- It is a collection of photographs showing Bihar in totality.
- By - Photographer and Padma Shri awardee Mr. Raghu Rai and his wife Mrs. Usha Rai.





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### POINTERS

- Which Indian-American has been appointed as the Assistant Secretary of the US Air Force - **Ravi Chowdhary**.
- Which country has opened its borders for tourists after three years of restrictions - **China**.
- Which state government has approved a 10% horizontal reservation for statehood activists in state govt jobs - **Uttarakhand**.
- RBI has tied up with which country's Central Bank to promote innovation in financial products - **United Arab Emirates**.
- According to the report of Swiss firm IQAir, which is the most polluted country in the world - **Chad**.
- India and the World Bank have signed loan agreements for the construction of the 'Green National Highway Corridor Project' in how many states - **Four**.
- Which app has won the prestigious 13 Aegis Graham Bell Award - **Hello Ujjivan**.
- Who has recently been selected for the Saraswati Samman 2022 - **Shivshankari**.
- Asia's largest international food and hospitality fair has started in which city - **Delhi**.
- The bird census at Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary identified 161 new species. Where is Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary located - **Kerala**.

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