

### NATIONAL

#### 1. Digital Science Park

**Why in news** - PM Modi laid foundation stone of Digital Science Park in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.

#### Key Points –

- It is a multidisciplinary cluster-based interactive-innovation zone focused on digital technologies.
- Purpose - to support the development of products in the area of Industry 4.0 Technologies like AI, data analytics, cyber security, smart materials etc.
- He also flagged off Kerala's first Vande Bharat Express connecting Thiruvananthapuram and Kasaragod.

#### 2. NAMO Medical Education and Research Institute

**Why in news** - PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the "NAMO Medical Education and Research Institute" located in Silvassa.

#### Key Points –

- Silvassa is the administrative headquarters of the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu.
- In 2020, two union territories of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu were merged into a single territory.

### INTERNATIONAL

#### 1. Washington Declaration

**Why in news** - US President Joe Biden and his South Korean counterpart Yoon Suk Yeol on April 27 announced "Washington Declaration".

#### Key Points –

- Once again, it underlined US support for South Korea.
- It boosted US nuclear umbrella over South Korea. The South does not have its own nuclear weapons.
- It provided for the regular deployment of a US nuclear submarine to South Korea which hasn't happened in South Korea since 1980s.
- South Korea pledged that it will not develop nuclear weapons of its own.

### Major U.S. bases in South Korea

(USFK troop number: 28,500)

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| • April, 2013    | The 23rd Chemical Battalion (Camp Stanley)                                 |
| • October, 2013  | The 4th Squadron, 8th Cavalry Regiment (Camp Humphreys)                    |
| • January, 2014  | 12 F-16 fighters with some 300 troops (Osan Air Base or Gunsan)            |
| • February, 2014 | 800-strong 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment (Camp Hovey, Camp Stanley) |



### GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

#### 1. Revamped CGTMSE scheme

**Why in news** - Narayan Rane launched the revamped CGTMSE Scheme in Mumbai.

#### Key Points –

#### Modified Provisions –

- Additional corpus support of Rs 9,000 crore to provide guarantee for additional Rs 2 lakh crore to Micro & Small Enterprises.
- Reduction in guarantee fees for loans upto Rs 1 crore by 50% bringing the minimum guarantee fee to the level of 0.37% per annum only.
- Raised ceiling for guarantee from Rs 2 crore to ₹ 5 crore.
- Enhanced the threshold limit for claim settlement without initiation of legal action to Rs 10 lakh.

#### About CGTMSE (2000) –

- Full form - Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises.

- Jointly set up by – Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI).
- Aim - to ensure the availability of collateral-free credit to the micro and small enterprise sector.



- Part of the EU’s “Fit for 55” package of climate plans i.e., reducing carbon emissions by 55% by 2030 compared with a 1990 benchmark.
- Also introduced Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), which concerns products imported from outside the EU for carbon-intensive industries.

### Provisions -

- The new rules increase the overall ambition of emissions reductions by 2030 in the sectors covered by the EU ETS to 62% compared to 2005 levels.
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- Setting up of “Social Climate Fund” - Investments to support vulnerable households, micro-enterprises and transport users and help them cope with the price impacts of an emissions trading system.

## SUMMITS & CONFERENCES

### 1. Global Education & Training Exhibition

**Why in news** - The “Study in India Pavilion” at the Global Education & Training Exhibition (GETEX) has been inaugurated in Dubai, UAE.

#### Key Points –

- Organized by - Services Export Promotion Council with the support of the Department of Commerce (Minister of Commerce & Industry).
- Venue - Dubai World Trade Centre, Dubai, UAE.

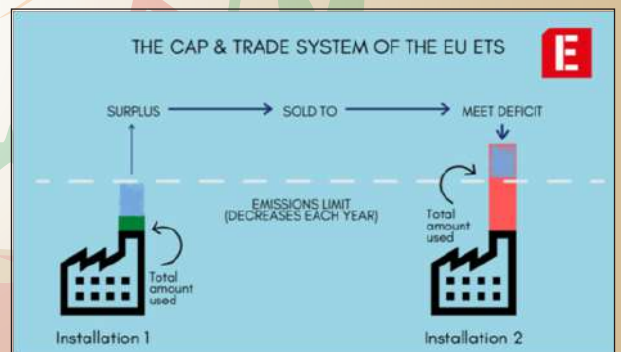
## ENVIRONMENT

### 1. EU’s Emissions Trading System (EU ETS)

**Why in news** – The 27 member states in the EU on April 25 approved a revamped EU’s Emissions Trading System (EU ETS).

#### Key Points –

- EU’s Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) is more commonly called the bloc’s carbon market.



### 2. Kalesar National Park

**Why in news** – A tiger was caught on camera-trap at the Kalesar National Park in Haryana’s Yamunanagar district after 110 years.

#### Key Points –

- Last sighting of a tiger in Kalesar area – 1913.

#### About Kalesar NP (2003) –

- Yamuna River marks the Park's eastern border.
- Spread in 11, 570 acres in the Shivalik foothills.

## SCIENCE – TECHNOLOGY

### 1. Oxygen from lunar soil

**Why in news** – Scientists at NASA successfully extracted oxygen from simulated lunar soil.



### Key Points –

- This may pave the way for astronauts to extract and use resources in a lunar environment called in-situ resource utilization.
- The test was conducted in “Dirty Thermal Vacuum Chamber”.

## AWARDS & HONOURS

### 1. “Solar Decathlon” competition

**Why in news** – IIT Bombay’s SHUNYA team secured 2nd place in Solar Decathlon Build Challenge in the United States.

#### Key Points –

- Reason – Built innovative zero-energy house designed to address air quality challenges in Mumbai’s hot and humid climate.
- Project name – Vivaan.
- SHUNYA - Sustainable Housing for Urbanizing Nation by its Young Aspirants.
- SHUNYA is a student-driven technical team of IIT Bombay working to build a sustainable future.
- Winner - Ball State University.
- The US Department of Energy’s (DOE) “Solar Decathlon” contest is the longest-running student competition in the US.

### 2. Global Gold Award

**Why in news** – Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd (PGCIL) has been conferred the Global Gold Award by The Green Organization.

#### Key Points –

- Reason – recognition of POWERGRID’s CSR work for improving Agriculture Productivity and Rural Livelihood in 10 villages of Kalahandi District in Odisha.
- PGCIL is a Maharatna CPSU of Ministry of Power.

## BIHAR

### 1. Civil Service Day

**Why in news** – District Magistrate of Gaya Dr. Tyagaraja SM was honored with two awards by CM Nitish Kumar at Patna Convention Building.

#### Key Points –

**Award in field of public services –**

- a) 1st – Patna (DM - Chandrasekhar Singh)
- b) 2nd – Samastipur (DM - Yogendra Singh)
- c) 3rd – Gopalganj (DM - Naval Kishore Yadav).

**Award in field of Grievance Redressal –**

- a) Supaul (DM – Kaushal Kumar)
- b) Jamui (DM - Avnish Kumar Singh).
- c) Shivhar (DM - Ram Shankar).

**Award for better work in field of “Saat Nischay” scheme –**

- a) Siwan (DM - Mukul Kumar Gupta).
- b) Buxar (DM - Anshul Agarwal)
- c) Sheohar (DM - Ram Shankar).

**Award for better work in field of Jal Jeevan Hariyali mission –**

- a) Nalanda (DM - Shashank Shubhankar)
- b) Munger (DM - Naveen Kumar)
- c) Gaya (DM - Dr. Tyagarajan SM)

**Award for innovation –**

- a) Mayank Barbare (Additional Director General cum Commissioner, Magadh Division, BIPARD).
- b) Dr. Pratima S. Verma (Secretary, Commercial Tax Department)
- c) Lokesh Kumar Singh (Secretary, science and technology department) and Animesh Parashar (Commissioner of Patna Municipal Corporation).

- Shraavan Shruti Project - Provide necessary examination of children suffering from hearing loss and deafness.





# CURRENT AFFAIRS

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## ➤ CURRENT AFFAIRS ONE LINERS ◀

- Which phenomenon has been associated with unusually warm periods in India, Bangladesh, China and some other Asian countries - 'Heat domes'.
- Who has been appointed as racial justice advisory board in New York City - **Udai Tambar**.
- Defence Secretary, Shri Giridhar Aramane inaugurated the state-of-the-art P8I simulator named "Ashok Roy Training Simulator Complex" (ARTSC) on which ship - **INS Rajali**.
- Which noted Pakistani-Canadian journalist described himself as "Midnight's Child" - **Tarek Fatah**.
- Who is the pioneer of circus in the country who passed away at the age of 99 - **Gemini Sankaran**.
- The wreck of the Montevideo Maru, a Japanese passenger vessel sunk during the Second World War, has been located along the coast of which country - **Philippines**.
- Which company has helped form 78 farmer-producer companies (FPC) between November 2022 and February 2023 - **ITC Limited**.
- **Which group of countries called for the "extension, full implementation and expansion" of the Black Sea grain deal - G7.**
- Tamil Nadu Idol Wing police retrieved a rare bronze idol of Hanuman, stolen from a Chola-era temple in Ariyalur district from which country – **Australia**.
- Recently, which pottery from the state of Tamil Nadu earned a Geographical Indication (GI) tag – **Manamadurai pottery**.