

## NATIONAL

### 1. Kerala Fibre Optical Network (KFON)

**Why in news** - Kerala officially launched the Kerala Fibre Optical Network (KFON) on June 5.

#### Key Points –

- Aim –
  - a) to bridge the digital divide by ensuring high speed broadband internet access to all houses and government offices.
  - b) to accelerate Kerala's journey towards being a knowledge-based economy.
- Implemented by - Bharat Electronics Limited.
- It is an optical fibre cable network of 30,000 kms, with 375 Points-of-Presence across Kerala.
- Kerala was the first state to declare the right to internet as a basic right.

### 2. Navigation for helicopters

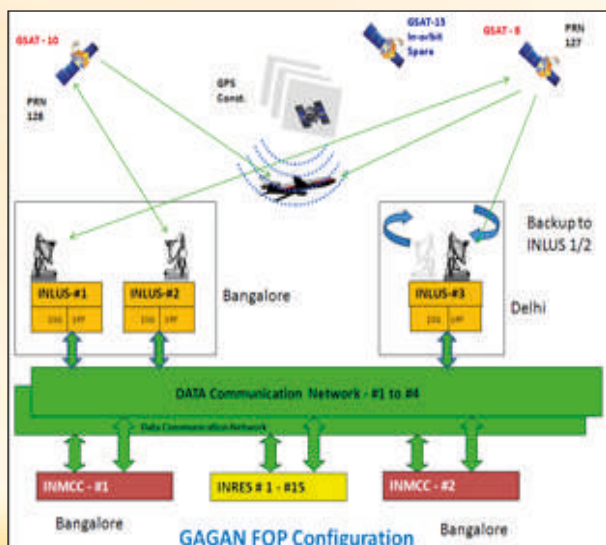
**Why in news** - India conducted Asia's first demonstration of performance-based navigation for helicopters using GAGAN satellite technology.

#### Key Points –

- Test flight - From Juhu (Mumbai) to Pune.
- All registered aircraft in India to comply with GAGAN by December 2025.

#### GAGAN –

- GAGAN – GPS-Aided GEO Augmented Navigation.



- Introduced in 2019.
- Space-based augmentation system for providing navigational services over the Indian FIR (Flight Information Region).
- Developed by - Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Airports Authority of India (AAI).

## INTERNATIONAL

### 1. MV Empress

**Why in news** - Sarbananda Sonowal flagged off the maiden International Cruise Vessel - MV Empress from Chennai to Sri Lanka.

#### Key Points –

- International cruise tourism terminal – Chennai.
- The cruise service would sail to 3 Sri Lankan ports; viz. Hambantota, Trincomalee, and Kankesanturei.
- 3 new international cruise terminals are likely to be completed and become operational by 2024.
- An MoU signed during the 1st Incredible India International Cruise Conference 2022 (Mumbai) to start domestic and international cruise service.

## SUMMITS & CONFERENCES

### 1. India-US Strategic Trade Dialogue (IUSSTD)

**Why in news** - The inaugural meeting of India-US Strategic Trade Dialogue (IUSSTD), which was held in Washington D.C.

#### Key Points –

- Both have decided to set up a regular monitoring group to review progress in the bilateral high-tech trade and technology partnership.
- Strategic technology and trade collaboration were envisaged under the India-US initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET).

#### iCET –

- Launched on the sidelines of the Quad summit in May 2022.
- Aim - forge links between the government, academia, and industry in areas such as AI,

- quantum computing, 5G/6G, biotech, space, and semiconductors.
- Both sides have identified 6 focus areas of co-development and co-production.

### SCIENCE – TECH

#### 1. EV battery plant

**Why in news** - Tata group signed an outline deal with the Gujarat government for building a lithium-ion cell factory.

##### Key Points –

- Proposed investment - Rs 13,000 crore (\$1.6 billion).
- Location - Sanand, Gujarat.
- Initial manufacturing capacity - 20 Gigawatt hours (GWh).

##### Value Addition –

- It would help Gujarat meet its targets of adopting 100% electric vehicles and curbing carbon emissions by 50% by 2030.
- India aims to be net zero by 2070, EVs to constitute 30% of all new automotive sales by 2030.

#### 2. Mission on Advanced and High-Impact Research (MAHIR)

**Why in news** – MAHIR was launched to leverage emerging technologies in power sector.

##### Key Points –

- Launched by - Ministry of Power and Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.
- Aim - to identify emerging technologies in the power sector and develop them indigenously for deployment within and outside India.
- Funding – M/o Power, M/o New and Renewable Energy, Central Public Sector Enterprises under the two Ministries and budgetary allocation.
- It would follow the technology life cycle approach of Idea to Product for an initial period of 5 years (2023-24 to 2027-28).
- 8 areas are identified for research e.g.,
  - Alternatives to Lithium-Ion storage batteries
  - Modifying electric cookers / pans to suit Indian cooking methods
  - Green hydrogen for mobility (High Efficiency Fuel Cell)

- Carbon capture
  - Geo-thermal energy
  - Solid state refrigeration
  - Nano technology for EV battery
  - Indigenous CRGO technology
- SDG 9 - Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
  - SDG 11 - Sustainable cities and communities.

### IMPORTANT DAYS

#### 1. World Oceans Day 2023

**Why in news** – It is celebrated every year on June 8.

##### Key Points –

- Theme - Planet Ocean: Tides are Changing.
- It was introduced by the Oceans Institute of Canada at the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- In 2008, the UN General Assembly passed a resolution designating 8 June as World Oceans Day.
- Global coordination of World Ocean Day was initiated by The Ocean Project in 2002.

##### Value Addition –

- Over 70% of Earth is covered in water, which produces at least 50% of the planet's oxygen.
- SDG 6 - Clean water and sanitation.
- SDG 13 - Climate action
- SDG 14 - Life below water.

#### 2. 5th World Food Safety Day 2023

**Why in news** – It is observed every year on June 7.

##### Key Points –

- Theme - Food Standards Save Lives.
- Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) implements the WHO Food Standards Program.

##### Value Addition –

- Food-borne diseases - Typhoid, E. coli etc.
- Monosodium Glutamate (Ajinomoto) - A flavor enhancer often added to restaurant foods, canned vegetables, soups, deli meats and other foods.
- Concerns wrt Ajinomoto - Fluctuations in blood pressure, migraine, breathing issues while sleeping.
- The Food Safety & Standards (FSS) Act was passed in 2006. It led to the formation of



FSSAI (2008), an apex authority responsible for formulating standards for food in India.

- **Aflatoxins -**
  - a) A family of toxins produced by fungi that are found on agricultural crops such as maize (corn), peanuts, cottonseed, and tree nuts.
  - b) Main producers - *Aspergillus flavus* and *Aspergillus parasiticus* that are abundant in warm and humid regions.



### AWARDS & HONOURS

#### 1. Grand Order of the Chain of the Yellow Star

**Why in news** – President Droupadi Murmu was conferred with the highest civilian award of Suriname, the Grand Order of the Chain of the Yellow Star.

##### Key Points –

- She is the first Indian to receive this award.

##### About Suriname (Capital: Paramaribo) –

- Location - Northeastern coast of South America.
- Smallest sovereign state in South America.
- Tropical country and vegetation is dominated by rainforests.
- Official language – Dutch.

### BIHAR

#### 1. Book “Nalanda”

**Why in news** – Acclaimed writer Abhay K's new book “Nalanda” to be published by Penguin.

##### Key Points –

- The book delves into the history of the ancient seat of learning in Bihar.
- It is scheduled to be released in October 2024.

#### 2. NIRF ranking 2023

**Why in news** – National Institution Ranking Framework (NIRF-2023) was released by the ministry of education on June 5.

##### Key Points –

- All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Patna rank - 27th (score - 57.30).
- It is the only medical institute from Bihar in the list.



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## ➤ CURRENT AFFAIRS ONE LINERS ◀

- In which city of Australia India to build new consulate – **Brisbane.**
- Where has the 32nd Summit of the Arab League been held – **Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.**
- Where has All India Radio released weekly bulletin in Gondi dialect – **Chhattisgarh.**
- Which company has developed ethanol diesel blend ED7 fuel to reduce emissions - **BPCL.**
- Which country's men's hockey team has won the “Junior Asia Cup 2023” title – **India.**
- Which state government has announced to give 6000 rupees to the farmers through 'Namo Shetkari Mahasanman Yojana' – **Maharashtra.**
- Which state government has announced to open drug de-addiction centers in all the districts – **Telangana.**
- Which country regained its spot as the 5th biggest stock market in the world – **India.**
- Who has recently won the election of the President of Turkey - **Recep Tayyip Erdoğan.**
- To mark the inauguration of the new Parliament building, PM Narendra Modi released a commemorative coin of how many rupees - **Rs 75.**