

NATIONAL

1. Brahmani Natural Arch

Why in news - Geological Survey of India discovered India's biggest natural arch in Odisha's Sundargarh district.

Key Points –

- Proposal - declare the "Natural Arch" in the Kanika range of Sundargarh forest division, a Geo Heritage Site.
- Made up of ferruginous sandstone.
- Period - 184 to 160 million years ago (lower to middle Jurassic age).

Value Addition -

- **Other natural arches in India –**
 - a) Andhra Pradesh (Tirumala hills in Tirupati).
 - b) Andaman and Nicobar islands.

INTERNATIONAL

1. Sex-Crime Bill

Why in news - Japan passed a landmark sex-crime bill to make a range of sexual offenses more easily punishable.

Key Points –

- Japan's age of sexual consent was lifted from 13 to 16.
- The age of consent had been unchanged since 1907.
- It criminalizes "photo voyeurism" — secretly taking sexual pictures of people.

RANKS & INDICES

1. Gender Social Norms Index (GSNI) 2023

Why in news - United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) released GSNI 2023.

Key Points –

- It shows biases and their impact on various aspects of women's lives.
- It tracked people's attitudes towards women in 4 dimensions – political, educational, economic and physical integrity.

Key findings –

- a) Nearly 90% of people still hold at least one bias against women.
- b) women face a 39% average income gap globally.
- c) 50% of world's population believes that men make better political leaders.
- d) 25% of people believe that it is justified for a man to beat his wife.
- e) women heads of state or government has remained around 10% worldwide since 1995.

Value Addition –

The gender score | India ranked 135 in gender parity out of 146 countries, according to the Global Gender Gap Report 2022 released by the World Economic Forum. A look at India's ranking in the four sub-indexes based on which the overall ranking was determined

| India | Rank 2022* |
|--|------------|
| Global gender gap index | 135 |
| Economic participation and opportunity | 143 |
| Educational attainment | 107 |
| Health and survival | 146 |
| Political empowerment | 48 |

*out of 146 countries



SCIENCE – TECH

1. "Silent Barker" project

Why in news - The US's Space Force to launch a constellation of satellites to deal with threats from China and Russia in space.

Key Points –

- Main focus - tackling Russian and Chinese spying on them through satellites.
- First-of-its-kind project.
- To be placed at an altitude of 22,000 miles (35,400 km) above the Earth in geosynchronous orbit.
- Function – Search, detect and track objects from space, enabling prompt identification of potential threats.



Value Addition –

- Chinese dual-use satellites in space –
 - SJ-21 satellite (2021) – can maneuver a satellite to a higher orbit.
 - Sijian-17 - equipped with a robotic arm that has the potential for grappling other satellites.

AWARDS & HONOURS

1. 4th National Water Awards 2022

Why in news - Vice President Shri Jagdeep Thakur conferred 4th National Water Awards.

Key Points –

- 41 winners across 11 categories were awarded in the field of water conservation and management.
- He also launched an animated short film on “Piku”, the mascot of National Water Mission for telecast on Doordarshan.
- Winner –**
 - Overall - Madhya Pradesh (1st), Odisha (2nd), Andhra Pradesh and Bihar (jointly 3rd).
 - Best district – Ganjam (Odisha), Namakkal district (Tamil Nadu), Adilabad district (Telangana).
 - Best Village Panchayat - Jagannadhapuram (Bhadrachalam, Telangana).
 - Best Urban Local Body – Chandigarh (1st), Indore (2nd), Surat (3rd).
 - Best Industry - Barauni Thermal Power Station, Begusarai, Bihar.
- India is home to about 18% of the world’s population, over 18% of the livestock, but we have just 4% of the fresh water resources of the world.

2. 45th European Essay Prize

Why in news - Arundhati Roy won the 45th European Essay Prize for her latest essay “Azadi” (2021).

Key Points –

- Her other works - The God of Small Things (Booker Prize), The Ministry of Utmost Happiness and My Seditious Heart.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1. Global Wind Day

Why in news - Ministry of New and Renewable Energy organized Global Wind Day event on June 15.

Key Points –

- Theme - “Pawan – Urja: Powering the Future of India”.
- Achievements in 2022-23 –**
 - Highest wind capacity addition – Rajasthan.
 - Highest wind capacity addition through open access – Gujarat.
 - Repowering of wind turbines - Tamil Nadu.
- Wind Atlas at 150 meters above ground level was launched. It was prepared by the National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE), Chennai.
- Onshore wind potential (150 meters above ground level) - 1,164 GW.

Value Addition –

- India’s rank in wind power capacity in the world – 4th.
- India’s Glasgow commitment (COP26, 2021)–
 - Reach 500 GW Non-fossil energy capacity by 2030.
 - 50% of its energy requirements from renewable energy by 2030.
 - Reduction of total projected carbon emissions by one billion tonnes from now to 2030.
 - Reduction of the carbon intensity of the economy by 45% by 2030, over 2005 levels.
 - Achieving the target of net zero emissions by 2070.

2. World Sickle Cell Awareness Day

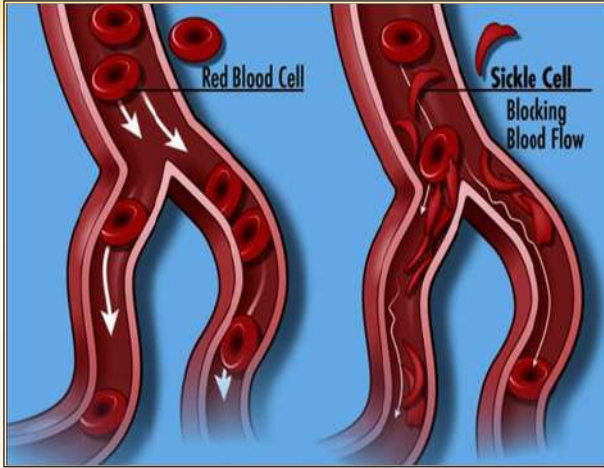
Why in news – It is observed on June 19 each year to raise awareness about sickle cell disease (SCD).

Key Points –

- Theme - Building and strengthening global sickle cell communities, formalizing newborn screening and knowing your sickle cell disease status.

About SCD –

- Genetic blood disorder . It affects hemoglobin.



- People with SCD have atypical hemoglobin molecules called hemoglobin S, which can

distort red blood cells into a sickle, or crescent shape.

- Irregularly shaped cells can cause blockages in blood vessels, leading to a variety of health complications.

SPORTS

1. Squash World Cup 2023

Why in news - Egypt won Squash World Cup title.

Key Points –

- Egypt beat Malaysia 2-1 (4-1 on points) in the final.
- Venue –Chennai.



➤ CURRENT AFFAIRS ONE LINERS ◀

- Nusrat Chowdhary has become the first Muslim woman federal judge in the history of which country - **the United States.**
- Who has inaugurated the exhibition titled 'Our Language, Our Heritage' - **Meenakashi Lekhi.**
- Who has been selected as the new chief of the Research and Analysis Wing - **Ravi Sinha.**
- India has won the Intercontinental Cup 2023 by defeating which country - **Lebanon.**
- Which country has created a national record by launching 41 satellites with a single rocket - **China.**
- Which union minister launched the "DugdhSanakalanSathi Mobile App" in Mussoorie, Uttarakhand - **Mahendra Nath Pandey.**
- Who is leading the committee set up to recommend reforms to the Arbitration and Conciliation Act of 1996 - **T K Vishwanathan.**
- The National Yoga Olympiad is being organized in which state ahead of the main event - **Madhya Pradesh.**
- What is the mascot of the upcoming 37th National Games in Goa - **Moga(Indian Wheat).**
- Who has penned a book titled "A Life Well Spent – Four Decades in the Indian Foreign Service" - **Satish Chandra.**