

### NATIONAL

#### 1. Empowering women entrepreneurs

**Why in news** - UNDP and National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) entered into a collaborative partnership.

##### Key Points –

- Aim - empowering women to make well-informed career choices in the field of entrepreneurship.
- Focus sectors - care economy, digital economy, electric mobility, waste management, food packaging etc.
- 3-year project (extendable beyond 2025).
- Coverage - 8 cities in initial phase. All the 4,041 statutory cities and towns.
- Today, women account for only 15% of the total entrepreneurs in India.

#### 2. ISC “Dhruv”

**Why in news** - Rajnath Singh inaugurated the Integrated Simulator Complex (ISC) “Dhruv” at Southern Naval Command, Kochi.

##### Key Points –

- It is an indigenously-built simulator to enhance practical training in the Indian Navy.
- Purpose - to give real-time experience on navigation, fleet operations and Naval tactics.
- Simulators envisaged in the complex –
  - a) Multi-Station Handling Simulator (MSSHS).
  - b) Air Direction and Helicopter Control Simulator (ADHCS).
  - c) Astronavigation Dome.

#### 2. Modi, Biden gift exchange

**Why in news** - PM Narendra Modi exchanged valuable gifts with US President Joe Biden and First Lady Jill Biden at the White House.

##### Key Points –

- Gift for PM Modi from the Bidens –
  - a) a handmade, antique American book galley
  - b) a vintage American camera
  - c) first edition copy of 'Collected Poems of Robert Frost'.
- PM Modi gift to the Bidens –
  - a) a special sandalwood box, handcrafted by a master craftsman from Jaipur.
  - b) idol of Lord Ganesha and a Diya (oil lamp)
  - c) 7.5-carat lab-grown diamond to First Lady Jill Biden
  - d) Book “The Ten Principal Upanishads” published by Faber and Faber Ltd of London.
  - e) Das Danam or Ten Donations –



### INTERNATIONAL

#### 1. Ban on Holi celebrations

**Why in news** - Pakistan's Higher Education Commission (HEC) banned Holi celebrations in universities.

##### Key Points –

- Reason - to check “erosion of Islamic identity”.
- “International Religious Freedom”(US report) 2022 had recommended Pakistan among the list of 12 nations, where there is a “concern for religious freedom”.

#### 3. Blacklisting Sajid Mir

**Why in news** - China blocked an Indo-US proposal at the United Nations to designate Pakistan-based Sajid Mir as a global terrorist.

### Key Points –

- Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorist Sajid Mir is wanted for his involvement in the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks.
- He was to be blacklisted under the 1267 Al Qaeda Sanctions Committee of the UN Security Council.
- Mir was LeT's operations manager for the attacks.

**Block Pattern**  
Since 2009, China has put on hold India's UNSC listing proposals. Here's a brief timeline.

**2009**: India moves a second proposal with the support of permanent UNSC members US, UK and France after the Pathankot attack. **China blocks it.**

**2016**: After the Pulwama terror attack, India briefs envoys of 25 countries to highlight Islamabad's role in promoting terrorism. India moves a fourth proposal against Ashraf. This time, China accepts it after 10 years of blocking the move.

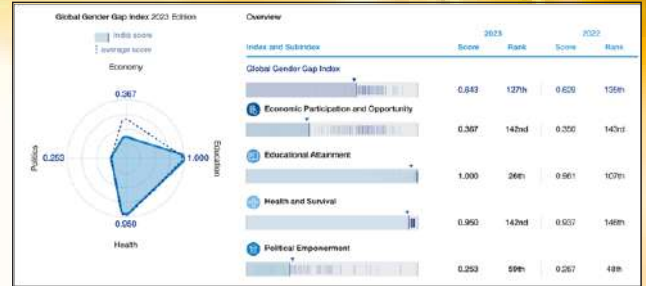
**2017**: The same countries move a third proposal. **China blocks it again.**

**2022**: India moves an independent terror designation proposal against Ashraf after the 26/11 Mumbai attack. **China blocks it.**

**10 years**: June: China places a "technical hold" on a US-India proposal to designate Makki as a terrorist. **Abdul Rahman Makki**, LeT/JuD Deputy Chief.

**October**: China places a hold on the proposal by India and the United States to designate Mahmood as a global terrorist. **Shahid Mahmood**, LeT Leader, Pakistan.

**August**: China puts on technical hold another India-US proposal to list Asghar. **Abdul Rauf Asghar**, JeM Deputy Chief.



### Other Key Findings –

- Global gender gap score 2023 - 68.4% (improvement of 0.3%).
- At the current rate of progress, it would take 131 years to achieve full gender parity.

### About Global Gender Gap (GGG) Index –

- Measures countries progress towards gender parity in four key dimensions –
  - Economic Participation and Opportunity
  - Educational Attainment
  - Health and Survival
  - Political Empowerment.
- GGG index provides scores between 0 (complete imparity) and 1 (full parity).

## REPORTS & INDICES

### 1. 17th Gender Gap Report 2023

**Why in news** - World Economic Forum released its annual Gender Gap Report.

#### Key Points –

- India's rank –127 (score - 0.643 or 64.3%)(2022 –135th).
- India's improvement - 1.4 percentage points and 8 positions.
- India has attained parity in enrolment across all levels of education.



## SCIENCE – TECH

### 1. INDUS X

**Why in news** - India-United States Defence Acceleration Ecosystem (INDUS X) was launched in Washington DC, USA on June 21, 2023.

#### Key Points –

- Aim - to foster collaboration and innovation between Indian and US defence startups for technological advancements.
- Co-organised by –
  - Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX), Ministry of Defence
  - US Department of Defence (DoD)
- Hosted by - US-India Business Council (USIBC).

### 2. GE's jet engine

**Why in news** - General Electric (GE) has signed an agreement with Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) to make fighter jet engines for the Indian Air Force (IAF).



### Key Points –

- GE's F414 military aircraft engine powers fighters like the Boeing Super Hornet and Saab Gripen.
- The pact aims to build them in India for the LCA Tejas Mk2.
- India-specific version of the engine - F414-INS6.
- Thrust class - 22,000 lb or 98 kN and feature advanced technology such as Full Authority Digital Electronic Control (FADEC), the latest aircraft ignition and engine control system.
- Currently the LCA Tejas is powered by a single GE-404-IN20 engine developed in the 1970s.
- It laid to rest the "technology denial regime" imposed on India by the West, led by the US.

### Value Addition -

- Only the US, Russia, the UK and France have mastered the technology and metallurgy needed to manufacture an engine that can power combat aircraft.
- Safran SA (France) and HAL have co-developed the Shakti engine for Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Dhruv and Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) Prachand.
- India's Kaveri engine project was sanctioned in 1989 but it was not been found suitable for fighter aircraft (generated only 70.4 kN as against the targeted 81 kN).



## 1. National Florence Nightingale Awards 2022 and 2023

**Why in news** - Droupadi Murmu conferred the National Florence Nightingale Awards for the year 2022 and 2023 to the nursing professionals.

### Key Points –

- 30 nursing professionals were awarded.
- Reason - Recognition for the meritorious services rendered by the nurses and nursing professionals to society.
- From Bihar (2023 award) – Ms. Gaytri Kumari (Auxiliary Nurse and Midwife category).
- It is given in honor of Florence Nightingale who is revered as the founder of modern nursing.
- It was instituted in the year 1973 by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

## 2. 200 international games

**Why in news** - Cristiano Ronaldo has received a Guinness World Record after reaching 200 international caps for Portugal.

### Key Points –

- He becomes the first male footballer to play 200 international football matches.
- He played his 200th match against Iceland.

## ENVIRONMENT

## 1. Treaty to protect high seas

**Why in news** - United Nations (UN) adopted the first-ever treaty to protect marine life in the high seas on June 19, 2023.

### Key Points –

- Delegates from the 193 member nations approved the treaty without a single objection.
- Focus - biodiversity of international waters, outside the jurisdiction of any one nation.
- To be opened for signatures in New York for two years starting September 20, 2023.
- Come into force - after 60 countries ratify the agreement.

## APPOINTMENTS

## 1. Hasmukh Adhia

**Why in news** - Hasmukh Adhia has been appointed as chairman of GIFT (Gujarat International Finance Tec) City.

### Key Points –

- He replaced Sudhir Mankad in GIFT City.



- Also appointed as -
  - a) Chairman and Director of the Gujarat Alkalies and Chemicals Ltd (GACL)
  - b) Chairman and Director of the Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation (GMDC).

### About GIFT City –

- Full form - Gujarat International Finance Tec City.
- Location – Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- India's first and only International Financial Services Centre (IFSC).
- India's first operational greenfield smart city.

## BIHAR

### 1. G-20 Patna meet

Why in news - Governor Rajendra Vishwanath

Arlekar inaugurated the 2-day Labour –20 (L-20) summit of G-20 nations on May 22, 2023.

### Key Points –

- Venue –Gyan Bhavan, Patna.
- President of the L20 summit - HiranmayePandaya.
- Key themes - “Social Security & International Portability of Social Security Fund and Women and Future of Work”.
- Union Labour Secretary Aarti Ahuja also attended the meeting.
- HiranmayePandayais chairman of RSS backed trade union Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS).
- BMS is not a member of International Trade Unions Confederation (ITUC).
- Altogether 173 delegates from 28 countries are participating in the conference.



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# CURRENT AFFAIRS

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## ➤ CURRENT AFFAIRS ONE LINERS ◀

- Who has been appointed as RBI Deputy Governor - **Swaminathan Janakiraman.**
- A Mesolithic-era rock painting has been discovered by an archaeologist at which place - **Guntur, Andhra Pradesh.**
- The Indian Army has concluded a massive military exercise "Agneyastra 1" at which place - **Eastern Ladakh.**
- Which group in US Senate will introduce a bill to add India to NATO Plus group - **Senate India Caucus.**
- Which state government launched 'Polytechnic Chalo Abhiyan' to motivate youths to pursue technical education and take admission in polytechnic institutes - **Uttar Pradesh.**
- In which country Indian Army is participating in 'Exercise Khsan Quest 2023' – **Mongolia.**
- Who has taken over as the new CEO of Alibaba Group - **Eddie Wu.**
- Recently who got the first Prof. Jayashankar Award to be conferred - **Acharya N. Gopi.**
- Nitin Gadkari laid the foundation stone of Bharat Mala Green Field Six-Lane Ring Road project in which state – **Haryana (Kutail village, Karnal district).**
- Which is the most valuable listed private company in India according to Hurun India - **Reliance Industries.**

PATNA CENTRE: NEW BPSC BATCHE STARTING FROM 28TH JULY 2023 TIMING 4:00PM - 07:00 PM (HINDI MEDIUM) AND 12TH JULY 2023 (TIMING 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ENGLISH MEDIUM))

DELHI CENTRE: NEW BPSC BATCHE STARTING FROM 5TH JULY 2023 TIMING 8:00AM - 12:00 PM (HINDI MEDIUM) AND 12TH JULY 2023 (TIMING 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ENGLISH MEDIUM))