



### NATIONAL

#### 1. ED director extension

**Why in news** - Supreme Court held that the 3rd extension to the tenure of Enforcement Directorate (ED) chief Sanjay Kumar Mishra is "illegal".

##### Key Points –

- However, the SC upheld the amendment to the
  - a) Central Vigilance Commission (Amendment) Act, 2021,
  - b) Delhi Special Police Establishment (Amendment) Act, 2021
  - c) Fundamental (Amendment) Rules, 2021.
- These amendments allow the Centre to have chiefs of ED and Central CBI with a tenure of up to 5 years.
- Sanjay Kumar Mishra was appointed as the ED chief in 2018 for 2 years. Then, starting in 2020, he was given three one-year extensions.

##### About ED (May 1, 1956) –

- Multi-disciplinary organization (not a statutory body).
- Mandate - investigation of offenses of money laundering and violations of foreign exchange laws.
- Under - Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance.
- Hq – Delhi. 5 regional offices - Mumbai, Chennai, Chandigarh, Kolkata, and Delhi.
- Enforces acts –
  - a) Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA)
  - b) Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA)
  - c) Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018 (FEOA).
- FEMA and PMLA apply to all of India, allowing ED to take action (search and seizure under Sections 16 and 17 of PMLA) against any person.
- ED cannot act on its own, and a complaint to another agency or the police is required for investigation.

### INTERNATIONAL

#### 1. Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering

**Why in news** - United Arab Emirates (UAE) secured observer status at the Asia-Pacific Group on Money Laundering (APG).

##### Key Points –

- First Arab country to be granted observer status at the APG
- APG plenary session was held in Vancouver, Canada.
- APG is a regional body modeled on the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).
- UAE was named to the Financial Action Task Force's "grey list" in 2022.

##### About APG on Money Laundering (1997) –

- "Regional body" of FATF.
- Observer states- the United Kingdom, France, Germany and North Korea.
- India became a member of the APG in March 1998.

#### 2. CPTP Agreement

**Why in news** – United Kingdom (UK) formally signed a treaty to join the Indo-Pacific bloc CPTP.

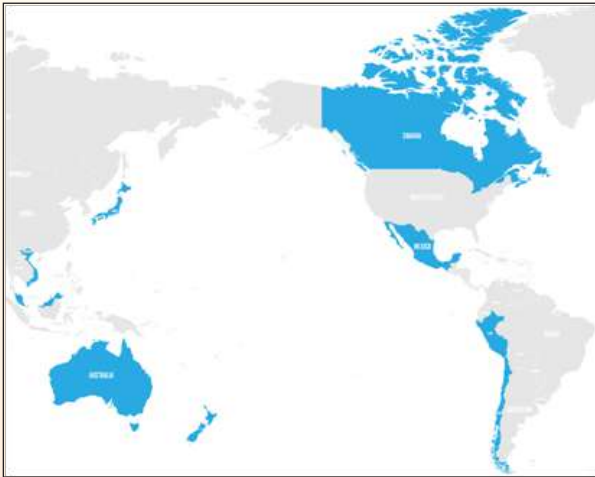
##### Key Points –

- UK signed the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTP) in Auckland, New Zealand.
- For UK, it is the biggest trade deal since the UK left the European Union in 2020.
- "Global Britain" strategy – Outlines 3 fundamental national interests that bind together the citizens of the UK – sovereignty, security and prosperity.

##### About CPTP (2018) –

- A Free trade agreement (FTA).
- It was signed by the 11 countries on March 8, 2018 in Santiago, Chile. (entered into force - December 30, 2018).
- Participants (11 countries) - Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam.
- Seen as a bulwark against China's dominance in the region. (China is not a member).

- Combined GDP - \$1 trillion(13.1% of global trade).
- All 11 countries of CPTPP are also members of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC).



### SCIENCE – TECH

#### 1. Wheat variety PBW RS1

**Why in news** – Punjab Agricultural University (PAU) has come up with a new wheat variety called PBW RS1.

#### Key Points –

- It has high amylose starch content, known to reduce risks of type-2 diabetes and cardiovascular diseases.
- PBW RS1 (RS -resistant starch)won't cause an immediate and rapid rise in glucose levels.
- High amylose and resistant starchensure that glucose is released more slowly into the bloodstream.
- Drawback - low grain yieldper hectare.

#### Value Addition –

- PAU – India's top state agricultural university in 2023 as per the National Institute Ranking Framework (Overall - Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Delhi).
- Earlier, PAU had released two varieties –
  - a) PBW Zn1 - high zinc content.
  - b) PBW1 - chapati remain fresh for long.
- Glycemic index - A value used to measure how specific foods increase blood sugar levels.

### LOWER GLYCEMIC INDEX

GI is value of how quickly foods can increase blood sugar

	New variety	Checks*		
	PBW RS1	PBW 550	PBW 725	PBW 766
Chapati	43.1	66.7	66.9	65.3
Atta biscuits	32.4	51.4	54.6	52.2

\*Comparison with other varieties

### ENVIRONMENT

#### 1. "Gajah Kotha" campaign

**Why in news** – Assam has launched the campaign to address the growing human-elephant conflict (HEC) issue.

#### Key Points –

- Initiative of - Aaranyak, British Asian Trust, the Assam Forest Department and Darwin Initiative.
- Aranyak is a renowned wildlife NGO based in Guwahati.

#### Value Addition –

- Number of elephants (Elephant Census, 2017) – Karnataka (6,049), Assam (5,719) and Kerala (3,054).
- Other steps for elephant conservation - Gaj Yatra, Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE), Asian Elephant Alliance etc.

### IMPORTANT DAYS

#### 1. World Day for International Justice 2023

**Why in news** – It is celebrated on July 17.

#### Key Points –

- It marks the anniversary of the adoption of the Rome Statute on 17 July 1998.
- Rome Statute is the founding treaty of the International Criminal Court (ICC).
- ICC seeks to protect people from genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and the crime of aggression.

### BOOKS & AUTHORS

#### 1. Book 'Krishna – The 7th Sense'

**Why in news** – Kerala Governor Arif Mohammed Khan released the Malayalam translation 'Krishna – The 7th Sense'.

#### Key Points –

- Author -Debashis Chatterjee.
- He also unveiled the latest edition of Prof. Chatterjee's work 'Karma Sutras – Leadership and Wisdom in Uncertain Times'.

### SPORTS

#### 1. MP State Esports Academy

**Why in news** – India's first Esports academy to come up in Madhya Pradesh (MP).

#### Key Points –

- MP has also announced the MP State Junior Esports Championship for all BGMI players across the state.

- Indian gamers can "qualify for the 2022 Asian Games" through BGMI.

### BIHAR

#### 1. All India Sainik Schools National Games 2023-24

**Why in news** – The 4-day-long group level All India Sainik Schools National Games 2023-24 concluded in Nalanda.

#### Key Points –

- Venue - Shri Sheoo Mewalal Sports Complex, Nalanda.
- Toppers –
  - a) Sainik School Nalanda
  - b) Sainik School Tilaiya
  - c) Sainik School Gopalganj
  - d) Sainik School Purulia
- Altogether 244 participants, including 42 girls from Sainik schools in Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal participated.

**PATNA CENTRE:** NEW BATCHES FOR BPSBC (HINDI MEDIUM) STARTING FROM 26TH JULY 2023

**DELHI CENTRE:** NEW BATCHES FOR UPSC STARTING FROM 19TH JULY 2023



# CURRENT AFFAIRS

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## ➤ CURRENT AFFAIRS ONE LINERS ◀

- Which state's Authoor betel leaves have been given Geographical Indication (GI) certificate - **Tamil Nadu**.
- Which ministry has launched a new campaign called "BHARAT" for banks under Agri Infra Fund - **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**.
- Who has been appointed as the captain of India's men's cricket team in the 19th Asian Games - **Ruturaj Gaikwad**.
- Indian government has reimposed the windfall tax on domestic crude oil to how much rupees per tonne - **Rs 1,600 per tonne**.
- Which union minister has launched the second phase of "AI For India 2.0" - **Dharmendra Pradhan**.
- India has won a total of 9 medals in the "World Deaf Youth Badminton Championship" held in which country – **Brazil**
- India and which country will work on joint development of a combat aircraft engine and an engine for the Indian Multi Role Helicopter (IMRH) – **France**.
- Gautam Adani has handed over the 1600 MW Godda Power Plant to which country - **Bangladesh**.
- Which bank has become the first bank to link Digital Rupee with UPI QR Code - **HDFC Bank**.
- Which company has been awarded the 'Golden Peacock' Environment Management Awards 2023 - **Adani Transmission Limited**.

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