

NATIONAL

1. Chandra Shekhar Azad (1906-1931)

Why in news - PM Narendra Modi has paid tributes to Chandra Shekhar Azad on his birth anniversary on July 23, 2023.

Key Points –

- On being presented before a magistrate (arrested during Non-Cooperation Movement), he gave his name as "Azad" (The Free).
- Azad joined Hindustan Republican Association (HRA) (Other members - Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev, Ram Prasad Bismil, Roshan Singh).
- Kakori Conspiracy (August 9, 1925 by HRA, Lucknow) – Plan was executed by Chandra Shekhar Azad and others.
- Hindustan Socialist Republican Army (HSRA, 1928) - established at Feroz Shah Kotla in New Delhi by Chandra Shekhar Azad, Ashfaqulla Khan, Bhagat Singh etc.
- Also, involved in the shooting of J. P. Saunders at Lahore in 1928 to avenge the killing of Lala Lajpat Rai.
- On February 27, 1931, he shot himself in Alfred Park Allahabad.

2. Rice export ban

Why in news - Centre prohibited the export of Non-Basmati White Rice.

Key Points –

- Aim - to ensure adequate availability of Non-Basmati White Rice and to allay the rise in prices in the domestic market.
- Non-Basmati White Rice constitutes about 25% of total rice exported from the country.
- However, there is no change in Export policy of Non-Basmati Rice (Par Boiled Rice) and Basmati Rice.
- By - Directorate of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Value Addition –

- India is the world's largest rice exporter (40% of the global rice trade).
- India is the 2nd largest rice producer after China.
- Top 3 producer in India - West Bengal (1st), Uttar Pradesh (2nd), Punjab (3rd).

- Wheat prices jumped after Russia withdrew from the Black Sea grain deal.



3. Film certification

Why in news – People are upset with CBFC over their nod to the Hollywood film Oppenheimer.

Key Points –

- Reason - Cillian Murphy reads out verses from the Bhagavad Gita during an intimate scene.

About Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) –

- CBFC hq - Mumbai
- Statutory body.
- Under - Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (I&B).
- Mandate - Regulate the public exhibition of films under the provisions of the Cinematograph Act, 1952.
- Films can be shown in India only after they have been certified by the Board.
- CBFC has 9 Regional Offices.
- Certificates–
 - a) unrestricted public exhibition (U)
 - b) parental guidance for children below age 12 (U/A)
 - c) adult (A)
 - d) viewing by specialised groups (S).
- All members and a Chairperson are appointed by Central Government.



Key Points –

- Aim - to boost solar power ecosystems in the poorest countries
- Initiative of - International Solar Alliance (ISA) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).
- Funded by – France.
- ISA was conceived as a joint effort by India and France on the side-lines of UNFCCC COP-21 in Paris in 2015.

ENVIRONMENT

1. Ludwigia Peruviana

Why in news - An invasive weed, Ludwigia Peruviana, is threatening the elephant habitats in Valparai, Tamil Nadu.

Key Points –

- Popularly called primrose willow.
- Native of Central and South America.
- It is an aquatic plant challenging the existence of local vegetation in swampy areas (wetlands).
- It was probably introduced as an ornamental plant for its tiny yellow flowers.
- It is among the 22 priority invasive plants in Tamil Nadu.
- Invasive species - Plant or animal that is not indigenous to a particular area and causes economic or environmental harm.

SECURITY

1. INS Kirpan

Why in news - India handed over missile corvette INS Kirpan to Vietnam.

Key Points –

- It is the first-ever instance of India offering a fully operational missile corvette to Vietnam.
- Indigenous-built Khukri-class INS Kirpan (commissioned- 1991) was decommissioned after completing 32 years of service.
- Earlier, India also handed over 12 high-speed guard boats to Vietnam.
- India and Vietnam signed “Defence Partnership towards 2030” in 2022.

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

1. STAR-C Initiative

Why in news - India may expand its Solar Technology and Application Resource Centres (STAR -C) initiative to Pacific Island countries.

AWARDS & HONOURS

1. 8th and 9th Community Radio Awards

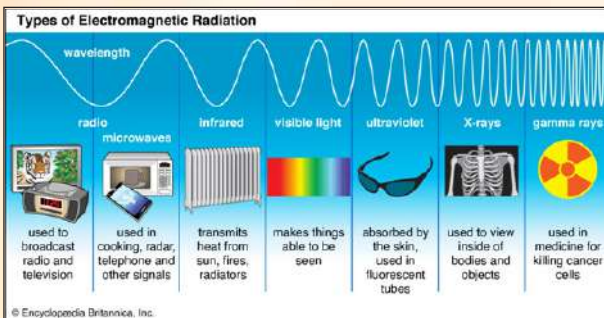
Why in news - Anurag Thakur today conferred the 8th and 9th National Community Radio Awards.

Key Points –

- **Thematic Awards –**
 - a) 1st - Radio Mind Tree, Ambala, Haryana (Program - Hope Jeene Ki Rah).
 - b) 2nd - Radio Hirakhand, Sambalpur, Odisha (Program - Adhar O PoshanBigyan).
 - c) 3rd - Green Radio, Sabour, Bihar (Program –PoshanShrinkhla).
- Community Radio is 3rd tier in Radio Broadcasting. They are low-powered and operated by community-based organisations.
- Indian Institute of Mass Communication - New Delhi.

Radio Waves (value addition) –

- A type of electromagnetic radiation.
- Uses- communication technologies, such as television, mobile phones and radios.
- Devices receive radio waves and convert them to mechanical vibrations in the speaker to create sound waves.



- Longest wavelength in electromagnetic spectrum and lowest frequency.
- Discovered by - Heinrich Hertz.

STATES/UTS

1. Mukhya Mantri Khet Suraksha Yojana

Why in news - The scheme would now be implemented in the entire state simultaneously (earlier – Bundelkhand region).

Key Points –

- Budget – Rs 350 crores.
- Aim - Prevent animals like nilgai, monkeys, pigs/wild boars, etc., from causing damage to standing crops.
- Provision –
 - a) a solar fence with a current flow of only 12 volts (mild shock to animals) will be installed to protect crops from animals.
 - b) a grant of 60% or Rs 1.43 lakh per hectare to small and marginal farmers.

BIHAR

1. Varanasi-Kolkata expressway

Why in news - The upcoming 6-lane greenfield Varanasi-Kolkata expressway has been named NH319B.

Key Points –

- It would connect 4 districts of Bihar.
- It would enter Bihar at Chand (Kaimur), bordering Chaudali in Uttar Pradesh (UP) and exit at Imanganj in Gaya after covering a distance of about 160 km.
- A 5 km tunnel is proposed to be created in the Kaimur hills.
- The upcoming logistics park in Gaya would be linked to it.
- It would also give Bihar easy access to Kolkata port for export of goods.
- Cost – Rs 35,000 crore.





CURRENT AFFAIRS

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➤ CURRENT AFFAIRS ONE LINERS ◀

- As per UN COMTRADE statistics, what is India's share in world foodgrain exports in 2022 - **7.79%**.
- Who has emerged as champion in the V Geza Hetenyi Memorial Super GM chess tournament 2023 - **R Praggnanandhaa**.
- In India, who has secured rights to broadcast the 9th edition of the FIFA Women's World Cup - **DD Sports**.
- Which pair has won the men's doubles title of the Korea Open badminton tournament - **Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty**.
- "Through the Broken Glass: An Autobiography" is an autobiography of whom - **TN Seshan**.
- Which state approved the Mission Shakti Scooter Yojana – **Odisha**.
- India's first cannabis medicinal project will soon be set up in which city – **Jammu**.
- Who has laid the foundation stone of a 108 feet tall statue of Lord Shri Ram in Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh through video conferencing - **Amit Shah**.
- Which State has enhanced its financial assistance to Divyangs under the Aasara pension scheme – **Telangana**.
- SEMCON India 2023 will be held in which city – **Gandhinagar**.

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

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