

NATIONAL

1. Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP)

Why in news - Government directed all pharmaceutical companies in the country to implement the revised GMP.

Key Points –

- Aim – to bring processes at par with global standards.
- Focus - quality control, proper documentation, maintaining quality of medicines produced, stability studies as per the climate conditions etc.

Value Addition –

- India's rank - 3rd in production by volume and 14th by value.
- India is the largest provider of generic medicines occupying a 20% share of global supply by volume.
- 60% of the world's vaccines comes from India.

2. Katchatheevu island

Why in news - PM Narendra Modi mentioned the island of Katchatheevu in his speech in the Parliament.

Key Points –

- Indo-Sri Lankan Maritime agreement 1974 - Indira Gandhi government 'ceded' Katchatheevu to Sri Lanka.
- It is an island between Tamil Nadu and Sri Lanka.
- Tamil Nadu politicians continue to clamor for its return.

About Katchatheevu –

- 285-acre uninhabited speck in the Palk Strait.
- Northeast of Rameswaram, about 33 km from the Indian coast.
- Only structure on the island is an early 20th century Catholic shrine – St Anthony's church.
- Product of a 14-century volcanic eruption.
- In the 17th century, it was under the Ramnad Zamindari based out of Ramanathapuram (TN).

- It became part of the Madras Presidency during the British Raj.



3. Privileges Committee

Why in news - Prahlad Joshi moved a motion that the House refer the "gross misconduct" of Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury to its Privileges Committee.

Key Points –

- Parliamentary privileges - Parliament and its Members (MPs) have certain rights and immunities that enable them to function effectively in their legislative roles.
- Privileges are those enjoyed by the House of Commons, the lower House of the United Kingdom's Parliament (Not written in the Constitution, no separate law).
- In 1978, Parliament deleted the reference to the House of Commons by a constitutional amendment.
- They are a mix of provisions in the Constitution, statutes, House procedures and conventions. e.g.,
 - a) Constitution - MPs have freedom of speech and immunity from judicial proceedings against anything they say or votes they cast in Parliament.
 - b) Code of Civil Procedure - Protects MPs from arrest and detention under civil cases during a parliamentary session.
 - c) Parliamentary rules - Authorities should immediately inform the Speaker of Lok Sabha and Chairman of Rajya Sabha about

MPs' arrests, releases and convictions.

- d) Contempt of House—Obstructing either House of Parliament in the performance of its functions, or obstructing any member or officer of such House in the discharge of his duty.
- Each House of Parliament is the guardian of its privileges. i.e., Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha have the authority to take suitable action.
 - Privileges Committee recommends to the House a course of action which is then accepted by it.

INTERNATIONAL

1. New human lineage (HLD 6)

Why in news - An ancient skull is baffling scientists with its not-so-similar features to the modern human.

Key Points –

- The skull doesn't resemble Neanderthals, Denisovans, or Homo sapiens (the modern human).
- It belongs to a child that was alive around 300,000 years ago.
- It was discovered in 2019 in China's Hualongdong.
- Other human species - Homo erectus (Africa), Dali Man (China), homo longi (Dragon Man, China).

2. Hottest month ever

Why in news – July 2023 was the hottest month ever recorded on Earth with abnormally high temperatures recorded on both land and sea.

Key Points –

- It was confirmed by Copernicus Climate Change Service.
- It was 0.72°C warmer than the 1991-2020 average for July, and 0.33°C warmer than the previous warmest month, July 2019.
- July 2023 is estimated to have been around 1.5°C warmer than the average for 1850-1900.
- Consequences – Heatwaves, Marine heatwaves, El Niño, Glacier retreat etc.

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

1. Bhu-Vision

Why in news – Bhu-Vision was officially launched at All India Coordinated Research Project on Spices, Hyderabad.

Key Points –

- It is an IoT-based automated soil testing and agronomy advisory platform.
- It is also known as KRISHI-RASTAA Soil Testing System.
- It was jointly developed by ICAR-IIRR (Indian Council of Agricultural Research -Indian Institute of Rice Research) and KrishiTantra.
- It can conduct 12 key soil parameter tests in just 30 minutes.

APPS & PORTALS

1. Cott-Ally app

Why in news – Cott-Ally app has been developed by Ministry of Textiles.

Key Points –

- Aim - to increase awareness about MSP rates, nearest procurement centers, payment tracking, best farm practices etc.
- It is especially useful for cotton farmers.

SCIENCE – TECH

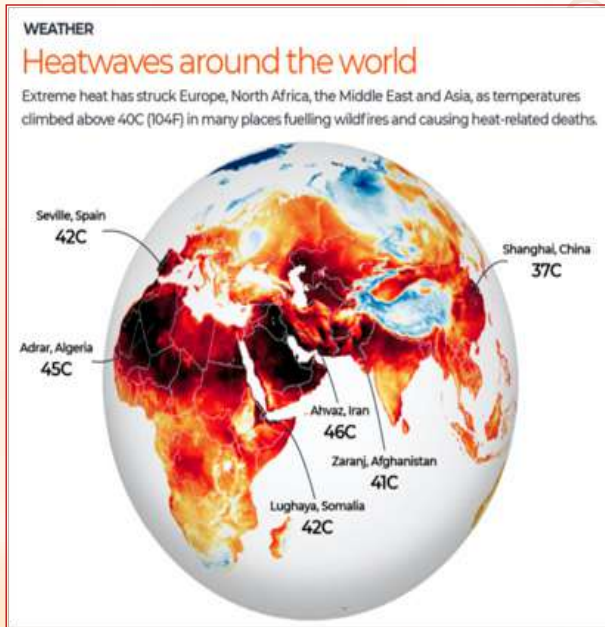
1. Samudrayaan project

Why in news – 3-member team to explore depths of the ocean in India's first manned ocean mission.

Key Points –

- By - Ministry of Earth Sciences.
- 3 people will be sent into a depth of 6,000 metre in a submersible (Matsya 6000).
- Aim - to study the deep ocean resources and conduct biodiversity assessments.
- Matsya 6000 has been designed and manufactured by the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai.

- To be implemented by 2026.
- It aims to explore the Indian Ocean (20% of the Earth's surface).
- The project is part of the Deep Ocean Mission (2018). It includes developing underwater robots, sensors, mining equipment and biotechnology.



Key Points –

- INS Visakhapatnam, and INS Trikandarrived at Port Rashid in Dubai.

2. Swathi Mk2 Radar

Why in news – Indian Army inducted the lighter version of Weapon Locating Radar (WLR-M) called "Swathi Mountains."

Key Points –

- It is an advanced electronically scanned phased array radar.
- Developed by - Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), Bengaluru.
- It is specifically designed for operations in mountainous and high-altitude areas.

APPOINTMENTS

1. Raman Sukumar

Why in news – Raman Sukumar has been elected a vice-chair of IPCC.

Key Points –

- He is an Indian authority on the Asian elephant.
- He will work on the IPCC's 7th Assessment Report, expected to be completed in the coming 5-7 years
- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) held its elections in Nairobi, Kenya.
- IPCC new chairman - James Ferguson 'Jim' Skea.

SECURITY

1. Exercise 'Zayed Talwar'

Why in news – Indian Navy to conduct bilateral exercise 'Zayed Talwar' with UAE Navy.

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➤ CURRENT AFFAIRS ONE LINERS ◀

- How many infrastructure projects worth more than 28 thousand crore rupees have been recommended under PM GatiShakti – **6**.
- Which country's exiled opposition leader Svetlana Tikhanovskaya has won the Swedish rights award, the Anna Lind Prize – **Belarus**.
- India's first post office near LOC has been inaugurated in which district of Jammu and Kashmir - **Kupwara district**.
- In which state Dhamtari 'Kamar tribe' has got housing rights has received habitat rights - **Chhattisgarh**.
- Which day is celebrated all over the world on 12th August 2023 - **International Youth Day**.
- Which state government has launched the “Indira Gandhi Free Smartphone Scheme 2023” – **Rajasthan**.
- Which state/UT has been given the GI tag for "Rajouri Chikri Wood Craft and Mushqbudji Rice" - **Jammu and Kashmir**.
- Who inaugurated the 9th India-International MSME Expo and Summit 2023 in New Delhi - **Manoj Sinha**.
- How much has the Reserve Bank of India proposed to increase the payment limit for UPI Lite - **Rs 500**.
- Which insurance company has launched premium payment through WhatsApp and UPI - **Tata AIA**.

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