

## Daily Current Affairs: 10.06.2021

### QS World University Rankings 2022

#### Why in the News?

- **Three Indian Universities** have achieved top-200 positions in **QS World University Rankings 2022**.
- **IISc Bengaluru** ranked **number 1 in the world for research**.



#### Key Points

##### Indian Institutions:

- Three Indian universities are ranked in the top-200 in QS World University Rankings 2022, with **IIT-Bombay securing 177th position, IIT-Delhi at 185th, and IISc-Bengaluru placed on 186th position**.
- The **Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore** has got a perfect score of 100 out of 100 for the citations per faculty (CPF) metric in the analysis.

##### Global Rankings:

- The US-based **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)** achieved a record-extending 10th consecutive year as **world number-one**.
- The **University of Oxford** has risen to **second** for the first time since 2006, while the **Stanford University and the University of Cambridge** share **third** spot.



#### About QS World University Rankings:

- London-based QS Quacquarelli Symonds, global higher education analysts, released the **18th edition** of the world's international university rankings.
- For the QS World University Rankings, institutions and universities were judged on **six indicators**-- academic reputation, employer reputation, citations per faculty, faculty/student ratio, international faculty ratio and international student ratio.



### Related Indian Initiatives for Education:

- **National Education Policy (NEP), 2020:** NEP aims to introduce several changes in the Indian education system - from the school to college level and make India a global knowledge superpower.
- **Institutions of Eminence (IoE) Scheme:** IoE is a scheme to provide the regulatory architecture for setting up or upgrading of 20 Institutions (10 from public sector and 10 from the private sector) as world-class teaching and research institutions called 'Institutions of Eminence'.
- **Uchhatar Avishkar Yojana (UAY):** UAY was announced with a view to promote innovation of a higher order that directly impacts the needs of the Industry and thereby improves the competitive edge of Indian manufacturing.
- **Impacting Research Innovation and Technology (IMPRINT):** It is a first-of-its-kind Pan-IIT and IISc joint initiative to develop a new education policy and a roadmap for research to solve major engineering and technology challenges.

Source: TOI

## G7: Global Minimum Corporate Tax Rate

### Why in the News?

- The **Finance Ministers from the G7** nations reached a landmark accord setting a Global Minimum Corporate Tax Rate on multinational companies.
- The decision regarding the Global Minimum Corporate Tax Rate will now be discussed in detail at a meeting of G20 financial ministers and central bank governors in July 2021.



### Key Points

#### About Global Minimum Corporate Tax Rate:

- G7 would back a **minimum global corporation tax rate of at least 15% and** put in place measures to ensure taxes were paid in the countries where businesses operate.
- **Corporation tax** is a direct tax imposed on the net income or profit those enterprises make from their businesses.

#### Applicability:

- It would apply to companies' overseas profits. Therefore, if countries agree on a global minimum, governments could still set whatever local corporate tax rate they want.
- But if companies pay lower rates in a particular country, their home governments could "top-up" their taxes to the agreed minimum rate, eliminating the advantage of shifting profits to a tax haven.

#### Need of Global Minimum Corporate Tax Rate:

- Reduce Tax Loss

- To Bring Uniformity

### Other International Effort:

- OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) has been coordinating tax negotiations among 140 countries for years on rules for taxing cross-border digital services and curbing tax base erosion, including a global corporate minimum tax.

### India's Stand:

- India is likely to benefit from the global minimum 15% corporate tax rate pact as the effective domestic tax rate is above the threshold, and the country would continue to attract investment.
- In September 2019, the government had reduced the corporate tax rate to 22% for companies that gave up all exemptions and incentives. Further, a 15% rate was offered to new manufacturing firms.
- For Indian domestic companies, the effective tax rate, inclusive of surcharge and cess, is around 25.17%.



### Facts about G7:

- It is an intergovernmental organisation.
- **Founded:** 1975
- **Members:** United Kingdom, United States, Japan, France, Germany, Canada, Italy
- All the G7 countries and India are a part of G20.

**Source: The Hindu**

## India's first International Maritime Services Cluster to set up at GIFT City

### Why in the News?

- **Gujarat Maritime Board (GMB)** will be setting up India's first international maritime services cluster at GIFT City in Gujarat.

### Key Points

- The Maritime Cluster will be developed as a dedicated ecosystem comprising ports, shipping, logistics services providers and pertinent government regulators, all present in the same geographic vicinity.



### About Maritime Services Cluster:

- This will be the first of its kind commercial maritime services cluster in India which has been conceptualized to enhance competitiveness and self-sufficiency of India in the maritime sector and provide a one-stop solution for the entire maritime fraternity.

### About Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City):

- GIFT City is India's first operational smart city and International Financial Services Centre (IFSC).
- GIFT City has state-of-the art infrastructure and world-class banking facilities and institutions that will be beneficial for fostering innovation, economic viability, collaboration, and business opportunities for the Cluster.

### About Gujarat Maritime Board (GMB):

- The Gujarat Maritime Board - a Government of Gujarat undertaking, and the first maritime board of India was set up in 1982.
- It is responsible for the development, administration, operation and regulation of the 48 Non-Major Ports as well as for the development of other maritime / shipping activities in the state of Gujarat.

Source: TOI

## Global database "I-Familia" to identify missing persons launched

### Why in the News?

- The **Interpol** has launched a new global database named "I-Familia" to identify missing persons through family **DNA (Deoxyribonucleic Acid)** and help the police solve cold cases in member countries.

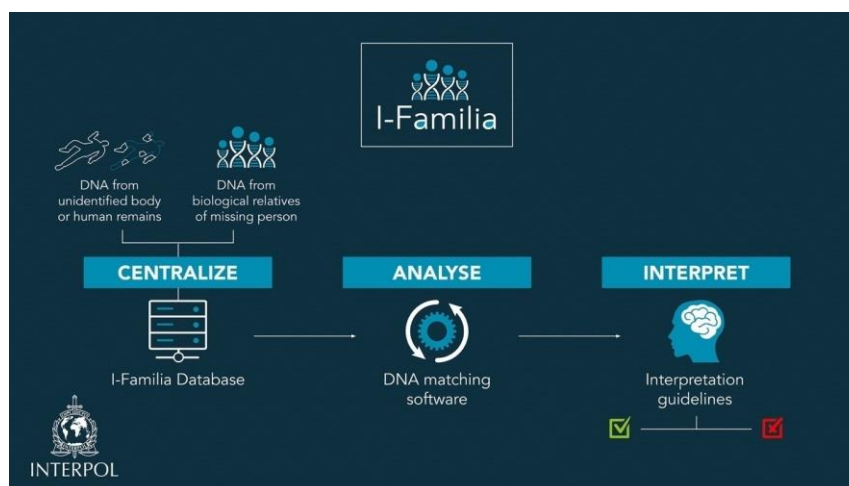
### Key Points

#### About "I-Familia":

- The first of its kind, I-Familia is a global database for identifying missing persons based on international DNA kinship matching.
- Interpol's I-Familia service provides the necessary international mechanism to allow missing persons DNA data to be compared globally.
- I-Familia is powered by Bonaparte, a forensic DNA matching software system developed by SMART Research.







### About Interpol:

- The **International Criminal Police Organization**, commonly known as **Interpol**, is an international organization that facilitates worldwide police cooperation and crime control.

**Headquarters:** Lyon, France

**President:** Kim Jong Yang

**Founded:** 7 September 1923

**Source:** The Hindu

## Indo-Thai Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) 2021

### Why in the News?

- The **31st edition** of **India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol (Indo-Thai CORPAT)** between the Indian Navy and the Royal Thai Navy is being conducted from 09 – 11 June 2021.



### Key Points

- Indian Naval Ship (INS) Saryu, an indigenously built Naval Offshore Patrol Vessel and His Majesty's Thailand Ship (HTMS) Krabi, an Offshore Patrol Vessel, along with Dornier Maritime Patrol Aircraft from both navies are participating in the CORPAT.

### About CORPAT:

- The two navies have been undertaking CORPAT bi-annually along their International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) since 2005.
- CORPAT builds up understanding and interoperability between navies and facilitates institution of measures to prevent and suppress unlawful activities like Illegal Unreported Unregulated fishing, maritime terrorism, drug trafficking, armed robbery and piracy.



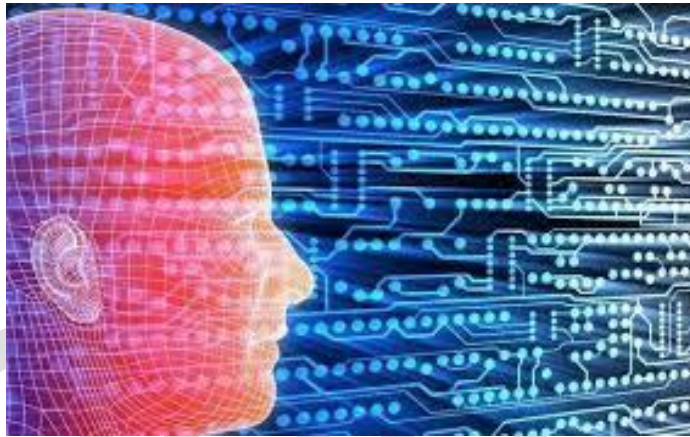
### About SAGAR:

- As part of Government of India's vision of **SAGAR (Security And Growth for All in the Region)**, the Indian Navy has been proactively engaging with the countries in the Indian Ocean Region towards enhancing regional maritime security.
- This has been through bilateral and multilateral exercises, Coordinated Patrols, Joint EEZ Surveillance, and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations.

## CBSE to introduce Coding, Data Science in Curriculum

### Why in the News?

- The **Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)** collaborated with **Microsoft** to introduce Coding for class VI-VIII and Data Science curriculum for class VIII-XII as new skilling subjects in the 2021-2022 academic session.



### Key Points

#### About Coding and Data Science Curriculum:

- In keeping with the **NEP (National Education Policy) 2020**, the introduction of these courses aims to build next-generation skills in students.
- Coding and Data Science Curriculum are focused on building critical thinking, computational skills, problem-solving skills, creativity and hands-on exposure to new technologies.

Source: The Hindu

## Anup Chandra Pandey takes over as new Election Commissioner

### Why in the News?

- **Anup Chandra Pandey** joins the **Election Commission of India** as **second Election Commissioner** in a three-member body headed by Chief Election Commissioner Sushil Chandra and Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar.



### Key Points

- Anup Chandra Pandey has been a 1984 batch Indian Administrative Service Officer.
- During the span of about 37 years of distinguished Government of India service, Shri Pandey has worked in various Ministries & Departments at the Centre and his state cadre of Uttar Pradesh.

**Source: PIB**

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