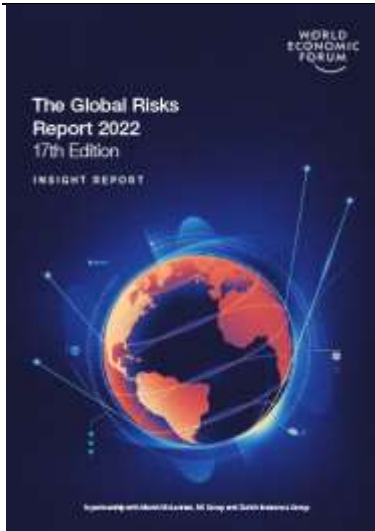


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Global Risks Report 2022



- The **Global Risks Report 2022**, 17th Edition, is published by the **World Economic Forum (WEF)**.
- Cyber security, pandemic, climate change and space advancements are the emerging risks to the global economy.
- It stated that climate change was the number one danger, while erosion of social cohesion, livelihood crises and mental health deterioration were identified as risks which had increased the most since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- The global economy is to shrink by 2.3% by 2024.
- According to Report released ahead of the Davos Agenda, a “global risk is the possibility of the occurrence of an event or condition that, if it occurs, could cause significant negative impact for several countries or industries”.

Facts about World Economic Forum: It is an international NGO.

- **Headquarters:** Cologny, Switzerland
- **Founded:** January 1971
- **Founder:** Klaus Schwab

Source: Business Today

India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2021



- Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupender Yadav, released the ‘**India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2021**’ prepared by the **Forest Survey of India (FSI)**.
- The **ISFR 2021** provides information on forest cover, tree cover, mangrove cover, growing stock, carbon stock in India’s forests, forest fire monitoring, forest cover in tiger reserve areas, above ground estimates of biomass using SAR data & climate change hotspots in Indian forests.

Major Findings:

- The total forest and tree cover of the country is **80.9 million hectares** which is 24.62 percent of the geographical area of the country. As compared to the assessment of 2019, there is an increase of **2,261 sq km** in the total forest and tree cover of the country. Out of this, the increase in the forest cover has been observed as 1,540 sq km and that in tree cover is 721 sq km.
- Increase in forest cover has been observed in open forest followed by very dense forest. Top three states showing increase in forest cover are **Andhra Pradesh (647 sq km) followed by Telangana (632 sq km) and Odisha (537 sq km)**.
- Area-wise **Madhya Pradesh** has the largest forest cover in the country followed by Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Maharashtra. In terms of forest cover as percentage of total geographical area, the top five States are **Mizoram (84.53%), Arunachal Pradesh (79.33%), Meghalaya (76.00%), Manipur (74.34%) and Nagaland (73.90%)**.
- 17 states/UT’s have above 33 percent of the geographical area under forest cover. Out of these states and UT’s, five states/UTs namely Lakshadweep, Mizoram, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya have more than 75 percent forest cover while 12 states/UTs namely Manipur, Nagaland, Tripura, Goa, Kerala, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Assam, Odisha, have forest cover between 33 percent to 75 percent.
- Total mangrove cover in the country is 4,992 sq km. An increase of 17 sq Km in mangrove cover has been observed as compared to the previous assessment of 2019. Top three states showing mangrove cover increase are **Odisha (8 sq km) followed by Maharashtra (4 sq km) and Karnataka (3 sq km)**.
- Total carbon stock in the country’s forest is estimated to be 7,204 million tonnes and there is an increase of 79.4 million tonnes in the carbon stock of the country as compared to the last assessment of 2019. The annual increase in the carbon stock is 39.7 million tonnes.

Source: PIB

Startup Grand Challenge



- The **Department of Fisheries**, Government of India in association with **Startup India**, Ministry of Commerce and Industry inaugurated the “**Fisheries Startup Grand Challenge**”.
- The challenge has been launched with an objective to provide a platform to start-ups within the country to showcase their innovative solutions within the Fisheries and Aquaculture sector.
- The challenge is expected to foster start-up culture within the sector and to establish a strong foundation of the entrepreneurial model, the Department of Fisheries has earmarked funds to the tune of Rs. 3.44 Crore for the challenge.

Note:

- Fisheries sector has tremendous potential for growth and the Government of India is providing all necessary support to achieve the one lakh crore export target from the sector by 2024-25.
- India is the second major producer of fish through aquaculture in the world.
- India is the 4th largest exporter of fish in the world as it contributes 7.7% to the global fish production.

Source: PIB

India and UK launch Free Trade Agreement Negotiations



- **India and the United Kingdom** have formally launched negotiations for a **Free Trade Agreement (FTA)**.
- This announcement has been made by Indian Minister for Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal and UK Trade Secretary, Anne-Marie Trevelyan.
- The India-UK bilateral trading relationship is already significant, and both sides have agreed to double that bilateral trade by 2030, as part of Roadmap 2030 announced by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Prime Minister Boris Johnson in May 2021.
- India and the UK will seek to agree a mutually beneficial agreement supporting jobs, businesses and communities in both countries.
- In parallel to trade negotiations, the India-UK Joint Economic and Trade Committee will continue to work in improving the India-UK trading relationship and addressing market access barriers outside of a trade agreement.

Source: PIB

David Bennett, world first human receives a Pig Heart Transplant





- **David Bennett**, a US man has become the first person in the world to get a heart transplant from a genetically-modified pig.
- The possibility of using animal organs for so-called xenotransplantation to meet the demand has long been considered, and using pig heart valves is already common.
- Pigs are increasingly becoming popular candidates for organ transplantation.
- This is because their organs are anatomically similar to those of humans.

Source: BBC News

Eminent rocket scientist S Somanath appointed new chairman of ISRO



- Eminent rocket scientist **S Somanath** has been appointed the new chairman of the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** as well as the Space Secretary.
- S Somanath will succeed K Sivan who completes his extended tenure as ISRO chief.
- He will be the 10th chairman of ISRO.
- He is currently Director of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC).
- The post of the ISRO chairman, the Space Secretary and the Space Commission chief is usually held by one person only.

Source: newsonair

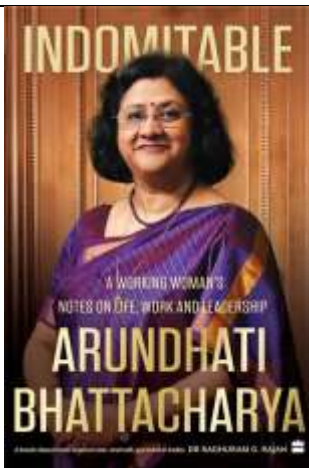
Global Women's Health Tech Awards



- **NIRAMAI Health Analytix Pvt. Ltd. and InnAccel Technologies Pvt. Ltd.**, two start-ups supported by **DBT-BIRAC**, have received the **World Bank Group and the Consumer Technology Association's Global Women's Health Tech Awards**.
- The award recognises innovative startups that leverage tech to improve women's health and safety in emerging markets.

Source: PIB

Book: "Indomitable: A Working Woman's Notes on Life, Work and Leadership"



- Former State Bank of India (SBI) Chairperson **Arundhati Bhattacharya** turned author with her autobiography - 'Indomitable - A Working Woman's Notes on Life, Work and Leadership'.
- The book focuses on **Arundhati Bhattacharya's** personal & professional journey.
- The book is published by HarperCollins India.
- In 2016, Forbes named her the Most-Powerful Woman in the World list, and she held the 25th spot.

Source: ET