

Daily Current Affairs: 03:02:2022

Important News: World

Dubai to launch world's first hydrogen-powered flying boat 'The Jet'



Why in News

- **The Jet**, the world's first clean-energy, hydrogen-powered flying boat, is set to be launched in Dubai.

Key Points

- Swiss startup THE JET ZeroEmission has signed an agreement with UAE-based Zenith Marine Services and US-based DWYN to manufacture and operate 'The Jet'.
- 'The Jet' features cutting-edge characteristics and technologies, making it capable of flying in silence over the waters at a cruising speed of 40 knots.
- The boat is equipped with two fuel cells and an air conditioner as well as other clean-tech, environmentally friendly technologies that help reduce carbon emissions.
- The boat's technology will be delivered in Dubai for an inaugural flight, during the next COP28 UAE preparatory meetings, which will be held in November 2023.
- Dubai launched the Dubai Clean Energy Strategy 2050 by virtue of which it aims to produce 75 percent of its energy requirements from clean sources by 2050.

Source: TOI

Important News: India

Hoysala Temples proposed to be listed under UNESCO World Heritage Sites



Why in News

- The Union Culture Ministry announced that the **Hoysala Temples of Belur, Halebid and Somnathapura** in Karnataka have been finalised as India's nomination for consideration as **UNESCO World Heritage site for the year 2022-2023**.

Key Points

- The 'Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysala' are on **UNESCO's Tentative list** since 15th April, 2014 and represent one of the highest points of human creative genius and stand testimony to the rich historical and cultural heritage of our country.
- All these three Hoysala temples are protected monuments of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and therefore conservation and maintenance will be done by ASI.
- The sacred ensembles of the Hoysalas, built in the 12th-13th centuries and represented here by the three components of Belur, Halebid and Somnathapura, attest to the creativity and skill of the Hoysala artists and architects who built these masterpieces of a kind never seen before or since.
- The Hoysala temples have a basic Dravidian morphology but show strong influences of the Bhumiya mode widely used in Central India, the Nagara traditions of northern and western India, and the Karnataka Dravida modes favoured by the Kalyani Chalukyas.

India's UNESCO World Heritage Sites:

- The first sites to be inscribed were Ajanta Caves, Ellora Caves, Agra Fort, and Taj Mahal, of which all were inscribed in the 1983 session of the World Heritage Committee.
- The latest site to be inscribed is Dholavira, Gujarat in 2021.
- As of July 2021, 19 of the 36 States and union territories of India are home to the World Heritage Sites, with Maharashtra having the highest number of sites (5).
- At present, there are 40 World Heritage Sites located in India. Out of these, 32 are cultural, 7 are natural, and 1 is mixed (meeting both cultural and natural criteria), as determined by the organization's selection criteria.
- India has the sixth largest number of sites in the world.

World's UNESCO World Heritage Sites:

- As of July 2021, a total of 1,154 World Heritage Sites (897 cultural, 218 natural, and 39 mixed properties) exist across 167 countries.
- With 58 selected areas, Italy is the country with the most sites on the list.

Note: Earlier, the UNESCO's World Heritage Centre (WHC) had agreed to publish Hindi descriptions of India's UNESCO World Heritage Sites on the WHC website.

Source: Indian Express

Important News: State

Chhattisgarh becomes 35th State/UT to implement One Nation One Ration Card plan



Why in News

- **Chhattisgarh** has become the 35th State/UT to implement “**One Nation One Ration Card**” (ONORC) plan.

Key Points

- Recently Department of Food & Public Distribution had reviewed the progress of States/UTs towards the implementation of “One Nation One Ration Card” (ONORC) plan and after successful testing of portability transactions, the Department has approved the integration of Chhattisgarh with the existing cluster of portability States/UTs under ONORC.
- Accordingly, the ONORC plan for nation-wide portability of the **National Food Security Act (NFSA)** ration cards has been enabled in the Chhattisgarh State from **2nd February 2022**.
- With the integration of Chhattisgarh, the ONORC plan is now operational in **35 States/UTs** covering almost **96.8%** NFSA population (about **77 Crore** NFSA beneficiaries) in the country.
- Since inception of the ONORC plan in August 2019, so far more than 56 Crore portability transactions have been recorded in the States/UTs under ONORC, delivering nearly total 100 LMT foodgrains through both inter-State and intra-State portability transactions equivalent to about Rs. 31,000 Crore in food subsidy.

Source: PIB

Important News: Defence

First sea sortie of fifth scorpene submarine ‘Vagir’



Why in News

- The fifth submarine of Project 75, Yard 11879, Indian Navy's Kalvari class commenced her sea trials on 01 Feb 22.

- The submarine was launched in Nov 2020 from the Kanhoji Angre Wet Basin of Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL).
- The submarine would be named **Vagir**, after commissioning.

Key Points

- The submarine will undergo intense trials of all its systems at sea, including propulsion systems, weapons and sensors.
- The submarine is scheduled for delivery to the Indian Navy in the year 2022 after completion of these trials.

Note:

- The six Kalvari-class submarines, designed by French company DCNS, are being built in India as part of the Indian Navy's Project-75.
- Two submarines of the ongoing Project-75 Scorpene programme at MDL - Kalvari and Khanderi - have been commissioned into the Indian Navy.
- The third submarine, Karanj, is in the last phase of sea trials.
- The fourth Scorpene, Vela, has started sea trials, while the sixth and last submarine, Vagsheer, is being readied.

Source: India Today

Important News: Appointment

Lt Gen Manoj Pande takes over as the Vice Chief of the Army Staff



Why in News

- **Lt Gen Manoj Pande** took over as the Vice Chief of the Army Staff from Lt Gen CP Mohanty who superannuated on 31 January 2022.

Key Points

- An alumnus of National Defence Academy, Lt Gen Manoj Pande was commissioned in December 1982 to the Corps of Engineers (The Bombay Sappers).
- The General Officer commanded an Engineer Regiment during Operation Parakram in the sensitive Pallanwala Sector along the Line of Control of Jammu and Kashmir.
- For his illustrious service he has been conferred with the award of Param Vishisht Seva Medal, Ati Vishisht Seva Medal, Vishisht Seva Medal, the Chief of Army Staff Commendation and GOC-in-C Commendation twice.

Source: HT

Important News: Sports

Unnati Hooda, Kiran George win Odisha Open 2022 titles



- Indian teenager **Unnati Hooda** beat compatriot Smit Toshniwal to claim the women's singles title at the Odisha Open 2022 badminton tournament.
- The 14-year old Unnati is the youngest Indian to win the tournament.
- In men's singles, India's 21-year-old **Kiran George** beat Priyanshu Rajawat to emerge as the winner.
- The **2022 Odisha Open** was a BWF Super 100 tournament that took place at the Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium, Cuttack, Odisha, India.

Source: The Hindu

Chennai Super Kings becomes India's First Sports Unicorn Enterprise



Why in News

- Ahead of the 15th edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL), **Chennai Super Kings (CSK)**, has become the country's first sports Unicorn Enterprise.

Key Points

- Chennai Super Kings have become the first-ever sports Unicorn in the country to have a market share of Rs 7,600 crore. In the gray market, its share is trading in the price band of Rs 210-225.
- The Mahendra Singh Dhoni-led CSK, which won its fourth IPL title in Dubai last year, now has a market cap more than its parent entity, India Cements.

Note: The Sanjiv Goenka-led RPSG Group bought the Lucknow franchise (Lucknow Super Giants) for Rs 7,090 crore, while CVC Capital acquired the rights for the Ahmedabad franchise for 5,625 crore.

Source: news18

2022 Asian Games



Why in News

- The **2022 Asian Games (19th edition)** will take place from September 10 to September 25, 2022, in Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China and there will be five co-host cities.

Key Points

- The multi-sporting event will feature 40 sports with a total of 61 disciplines, including Olympic sports like swimming, archery, athletics, badminton, equestrian, fencing, football, hockey, judo, kabaddi, and much more.
- E-sports and breakdancing will debut in the 2022 Asian Games as full medal sports after being approved by the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) this year, while Cricket will be back at Asian Games in T20 format after 11 years.
- India is a member of the South Asian Zone of the Olympic Council of Asia and one of the only seven countries that have competed in all the editions of the Asian Games.

Source: TOI

Important News: Personality

Additional Solicitor General Rupinder Singh Suri passes away



- Senior advocate and Additional Solicitor General (ASG) **Rupinder Singh Suri** passed away.
- Suri was appointed the ASG in June 2020.
- He was designated as senior advocate in 2009 and also served as the President of the Supreme Court Bar Association and the Supreme Court Advocates on Record Association.
- He served as standing counsel in the Supreme Court for Punjab for about 15 years.

Source: ET