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Important News: International

India's Contribution to UN Women



Why in News?

• Recently India contributed \$500,000 to the UN Women. UN Women is the United Nations entity dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women.

Key Points:

- This amount has been contributed towards the core budget of the Un Women.
- The amount was handed over by T. S. Tirumurti, India's permanent representative to the UN to Dr. Sima Bahous, the Executive Director of UN Women.

About UN Women

• UN Women is the United Nations entity dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women.

- A global champion for women and girls, UN Women was established to accelerate progress on meeting their needs worldwide.
- UN Women was established by the merger of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM, established in 1976) and other entities, and became operational in January 2011.
- Ms. Sima Sami Bahous became UN Women's third Executive Director on 30 September 2021.

Source: ndtv

Public Emergency in Sri Lanka



Why in News?

Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has declared a nationwide public emergency amidst a spate of protests, including outside his house, over the worst economic crisis in Sri Lanka.

Key Points:

Srilankan President issued a special gazette notification, declaring a public emergency in Sri Lanka with immediate effect from April 1 after hundreds of

protesters gathered in the capital and

many of them tried to storm the President's residence to protest against the government for "poor management of economic policies, which has created the mess in the country.

Source: indiatoday

Important News: India

Chandrapur district of Maharashtra is recorded third hottest place in the world



Why in News?

• Chandrapur, which is famous for its hot and scorching summer, was on Tuesday the third hottest place in the world at 43.4 degrees Celsius, according to the El Dorado weather website.

Key Points:

• According to El Dorado Weather, Kayes, Mali, was the hottest spot on earth, with 44.4 degrees Celsius,

Segou, Mali, was second with 43.8 degrees Celsius, and Chandrapur was third.

- In view of this, the forest authorities have to be alert in view of the possible consequences of forest fires due to the effect of high temperatures on the forest area adjoining Chandrapur.
- The first forest fire was recorded recently in the Chandrapur district. The fire was witnessed in the area of the Irai dam.

About Chandrapur district of Maharashtra

- Chandrapur district is a district in the Nagpur Division in the Indian state of Maharashtra.
- During the British colonial period, it was called Chanda district, which was again changed to its original name 'Chandrapur' around 1964.

Source: indiatoday

UPI crosses the 500-crore milestone in volume terms in March



Why in News?

• The widely popular Unified Payments Interface (UPI) crossed the 500-crore mark in terms of volume and was close to touching the ₹10-lakh crore milestone in value terms in March this year.



Key Points:



• UPI processed as many as 540.56 crore payments last month amounting to ₹9,60,581.66 crore.

About Unified Payments Interface (UPI):

- UPI stands for Unified Payment Interface. It is a real-time payment system that helps in the instant and quick transfer of funds between two bank accounts. The transfer of funds is done through a single mobile application.
- The idea of UPI was developed by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and is controlled by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and IBA (Indian Bank Association).

Are BHIM and UPI the same?

• UPI is a platform whereas BHIM is a separate mobile wallet app like Paytm, PhonePe, etc.

National Payments Corporation of India:

- The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) is an initiative taken by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Indian Bank's Association (IBA) to operate the retail payments and settlement systems in India.
- This organisation was founded in the year 2008 under the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.
- NPCI has been incorporated as a 'not for profit' company under section 8 of the Companies Act 2013.
- NPCI headquarters: Mumbai (Maharashtra)
- Current Chairman Shri Biswamohan Mahapatra

Source: pib

Uttar Pradesh has become the top producer of vegetables







Why in News?

Uttar Pradesh has reclaimed its position as the top producing State in vegetables relegating West Bengal to the second position after two years.

Key Points:

- This time the difference between the two is more than a million tonnes.
- Andhra Pradesh remains the top fruit producer.
- Vegetable production in Uttar Pradesh is expected to be 29.58 million tonnes (mt) in the 2021-22 crop year.

Vikas Kumar named as Managing Director of Delhi Metro Rail Corporation







• Vikas Kumar, an officer of the 1988-batch of the Indian Railway Traffic Service has been appointed as the new managing director (MD) of the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) for a term of five years.

Key Points:

- Vikas Kumar, an officer of the 1988-batch of the Indian Railway Traffic Service, prior to this, was appointed as Director (Operations) in early December 2021.
- He is an electrical engineering graduate from IIT-Roorkee (1987) and did his M.Tech from IIT-Delhi in 1989.
- Kumar succeed Mangu Singh, whose tenure ends on March 31.

About Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC):

- Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Limited (DMRC) is a centre-state joint venture that operates the Delhi Metro.
- The DMRC is also involved in the planning and implementation of metro rail, monorail, and high-speed rail projects in India and abroad.
- The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. was created on 3 May 1995.

Source: Indian Express

Important News: Defense

'Varuna' Naval Exercise







Why in News?

• The 20th edition of the Bilateral Naval Exercise between Indian and French Navies – 'VARUNA' is being conducted in the Arabian Sea from 30 Mar – 03 Apr 22.

Key Points:

- The Bilateral Naval Exercises between the two Navies were initiated in 1993.
- The exercise was christened 'VARUNA' in 2001 and has become a vital part of India France's strategic bilateral relationship.

Other important Joint Military Exercises:

- Sampriti India & Bangladesh
- Mitra Shakti India & Sri Lanka
- Maitree Exercise- India & Thailand
- Vajra Prahar- India & US
- Yudh Abhyas India & US
- Nomadic Elephant India & Mongolia
- Garuda Shakti India & Indonesia
- Shakti Exercise India & France





- Dharma Guardian India & Japan
- Surya Kiran India & Nepal
- Hand in Hand Exercise India & China
- SIMBEX India & Singapore
- Shakti Exercise India & France
- CORPAT India & Thailand

Source: Indian Express

Important News: Sport

Australia wins ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2022



Why in News?

Australia has been crowned the winners of the 2022 ICC Women's Cricket World Cup after beating England by 71 runs, winning their seventh title at Hagley Oval in Christchurch, New Zealand.

Key Points:

- Australia won the World Cup without losing a single game.
- Alyssa Healy of Australia scored 170 runs in the match, the highest individual score made by any cricketer, male or female, in the World Cup Final.



- This is the 12th edition of the Women's Cricket World Cup. The tournament was held in New Zealand from 4 March to 3 April 2022.
- Player of the Tournament Alyssa Healy.
- 8 teams participated in the Women's Cricket World Cup 2022: India, Bangladesh, South Africa, New Zealand, Australia, England, West Indies, Pakistan

Source: India Today

Meghalaya would be hosting the 83rd National Table Tennis Championship in 2022



Why in News?

Meghalaya is all set to host the 83rd National Table Tennis Championship 2021 scheduled to begin from April 18th till 25th, 2022 at SAI Indoor Training Centre, NEHU in Shillong.

About Table Tennis Federation of India:

- TTFI was established in the year 1926.
- It is a founder member of the ITTF and has been at the forefront in the promotion of the game in India and the world.
- TTFI has the affiliation of 34 state units and 37 institutions.
- TTFI is one of the most active among all sports federations in the country.





- India is represented through TTFI in all the major international championships like Olympics, World, Commonwealth, Asian and all Protours.
- Currently, the TTFI is headed by President Mr. Dushyant Chautala and Secretary-General Mr. Arun Kumar Banerjee.

Source: India Today

MS Dhoni becomes the second Indian to play 350 T20s.



Why in News?

• Former India and Chennai Super Kings (CSK) skipper MS Dhoni made his 350th T20 appearance on April 3 during the 11th match of the IPL 2022 against the Punjab Kings (PBKS).

Key Points:

- Mumbai Indian skipper Rohit Sharma is the other Indian player to have played more than 350 T20 games.
- Out of the 350 T20 matches MS Dhoni has represented India in 98 T20 Internationals while he has played 222 T20 matches in the Indian Premier League for Chennai Super Kings and Rising Pune Supergiants.

Source: India Today

Important News: Important Day





International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action - 4 April



Why in News?

• International Day for Mine Awareness is observed annually on April 4 to increase attention among people regarding assistance for mine action work, raise awareness about landmines and the threats to the safety of humans and work towards their eradication.

Key Points:

- This year, the theme of International Mine Awareness Day stands for "Safe Ground, Safe Steps, Safe Home".
- This day was approved by the UN, General assembly on 8 December 2005.

Source: UN news





