

Daily Current Affairs 12.09.2022

Important News: International

Indian students received the highest number of student visas from the US in 2022

Why in News:

- Indian students received the most student visas from the US in 2022, according to information made public by the US Embassy.



Key Points:

- The US granted a record 82,000 student visas to Indian students in 2022, more than any other year.
- More Indian students than those from any other nation have been granted US student visas this year.
- From May through August, the US Embassy in New Delhi and the consulates in Chennai, Hyderabad, Kolkata, and Mumbai give priority to student visa applications in order to allow as many qualified students as possible to enroll in their programs of study on time.
- About 20% of all foreign students in the US are from India, according to data made public by the US Embassy.
- According to the Open Doors Report, which was published in 2021 as well, 167,582 Indian students were given visas to study in the US for the academic year 2020–21.
- In order to draw Indian students in 2020, the US government and higher education institutions have already taken steps to safely welcome international students using in-person online, and hybrid learning methods.

Source: Jansatta

Important News: National

E-FAST- India's first National Electric Freight Platform launched by NITI Aayog, WRI

Why in News:

NITI Aayog and the World Resources Institute have introduced India's first national electric freight platform, dubbed e-Fast India (Electric Freight Accelerator for Sustainable Transport-India) (WRI).



Key Points:

- With the help of the World Economic Forum, CALSTART, and RMI India, the National Electric Freight Platform aims to unite numerous stakeholders.
- The Electric Freight Platform, which is supported by a ground-level demonstration pilot and research-based data, intends to increase public awareness of freight electrification.
- In order to speed up the electrification of freight in India, the Electric Freight Platform will also support scalable trials and provide information for policies.
- Important representatives from the auto industry, logistics firms, development banks, and fin-tech firms also attended the opening of e-Fast India.
- WRI India's Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) Evaluator has also been launched following the launch of e-Fast India.

Source: Livemint

Important News: State

Odisha government launched a rainwater harvesting scheme named 'Chhata'

Why in News:

- Odisha government has started the CHHATA Scheme i.e., community exploitation and harvesting of rainwater artificially from the roof to the aquifer.



key points:

- The CHHATA scheme was approved by the cabinet last month.
- The CHHATA scheme will be implemented initially for a period of five years.
- Under this scheme, the state government will work towards the conservation of rainwater and improving water quality in urban local bodies (ULBs) and water scarce blocks.
- Under this scheme, based on the groundwater resource assessment carried out in the year 2020, rainwater harvesting structures will be constructed on the roofs of 29,500 private buildings and 1,925 government buildings in 52 water-stressed blocks and 27 urban local bodies.
- An estimated 373.52 crore liters of water will be harvested between the year 2022-23 to the year 2026-27 under the CHHATA scheme.
- The CHHATA scheme will be implemented through the existing manpower of the Department of Water Resources (DoWR) with an outlay of Rs 270 crore.
- The average cost of each water harvesting structure on the roofs of government buildings under the CHHATA scheme by the state government is fixed at Rs 4.32 lakhs while in rural areas around Rs 3.06 lakhs per building.
- The capital of the state of Odisha is Bhubaneswar, the Chief Minister of Odisha is Naveen Patnaik, and the Governor is Ganeshi Lal.

Source: Indian Express

Bihar CM inaugurates India's longest rubber dam on river Falgu

Why in News:

- Nitish Kumar, the Chief Minister of Bihar, has officially opened Gayaji Dam, the country's longest rubber dam, which is located on the Falgu River near Gaya.



Key Points:

- The construction of the Gayaji Dam cost an estimated Rs 324 crore and involved IIT experts (Roorkee).
- The government constructed the Gayaji Dam for the sake of the pilgrims.
- The Falgu River near Vishnupad Ghat will always have at least two feet of water accessible to devotees who come to perform Pind Daan thanks to the completion of the Gayaji dam.
- The Gayaji Dam's main function is to continuously deliver water throughout the year to the Vishnupad temple in Gaya.
- The Gayaji Dam, which was created by scientists from IIT Roorkee, is 411 meters long, 95.5 meters broad, and 3 meters high.

- Along with the rubber dam, the Falgu River's banks have been improved, and a steel bridge has been constructed to allow pilgrims to cross it to reach the Sita Kund.
- With the construction of the Gayaji dam, it will be possible to store water in the Falgu River so that it is available all year round instead of just during the monsoon season.

Source: Times of India

Important News: Defence

Singapore honors Lanba, former Navy Chief of India with the 'Medhavi Seva Medal'

Why in News:

- Admiral Sunil Lanba, a former commander of the Indian Navy, has been awarded the Meritorious Service Medal (Military) (MSM(M)), Singapore's highest military honor, by President Halima Yacob.



Key Points:

- The award was given to Admiral Lanba in recognition of his remarkable contribution to strengthening the long-standing and strong bilateral defence ties between the Indian Navy and the Republic of Singapore Navy.
- The framework for Navy-to-Navy exchanges and areas of common interest were formed by the two nations' signing of the Bilateral Agreement for Naval Cooperation in November 2017 and the Implementation Arrangement for Mutual Coordination, Logistics and Services Support in June 2018. expanded collaboration in areas like information sharing, support for logistics, and submarine rescue.
- With the assistance of the former Navy Chief Lanba, the two navies also conducted the Silver Jubilee of the Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise earlier in 2018.
- Both armies successfully completed the Singapore-India-Thailand Maritime Exercise (SITMEX) in September 2019.

Source: PIB

Important Appointment

Volker Turk set to become next UN human rights chief

Why in News:

- Volker Turk, a citizen of Austria, has been appointed as the UN General Assembly's human rights representative by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.



Key Points:

- Chilean politician Veronica Michele Bachelet Jeria, who held the position of UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) from 2018 to 2022, is replaced by Volker Turk.
- Turk, who is the assistant secretary-general for policy at the moment.
- Volker Turk previously held the position of Assistant High Commissioner for Security at the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR), Geneva.
- Volker Turk has worked tirelessly and effectively to improve human rights on a worldwide basis.
- Volker Turk has also collaborated with the United Nations Refugee Agency in Kuwait, Malaysia, Kosovo, and Bosnia-Herzegovina.
- A contentious report that China is mistreating Muslim minorities and committing crimes against humanity against the Uyghur people would be Volker Turk's first obstacle.
- The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights Establishment was established in December 1993.

Source: Indian Express

King Charles III ascends to the throne of the United Kingdom

Why in News:

- Prince Charles, the late Queen Elizabeth II's son, succeeded as the new monarch of Britain.



Key Points:



- Following the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, Prince Charles succeeded her as the monarch of the United Kingdom, becoming King Charles III.
- Prince Charles Philip Arthur George is Charles' full name; he was born in Buckingham Palace.
- After graduating from Trinity College at Cambridge University in 1971 and earning his master's degree there in 1975, Prince Charles became the first member of the royal family to hold a college diploma.
- Prince Charles had previously served from 1971 to 1976 in the Royal Navy.
- King Charles will succeed Queen Elizabeth as the new monarch of the 14 Commonwealth nations that Queen Elizabeth formerly presided over.
- On February 6, 1952, Queen Elizabeth II succeeded her father, King George VI, who had passed away at the young age of 25.
- Queen Elizabeth II was the British monarch who reigned the longest.

Source: Times of India

Important Days

World Suicide Prevention Day observed on 10 September

Why in News:

- The global community observes World Suicide Prevention Day (WSPD) on September 10 each year.



Key Points:

- World Suicide Prevention Day in 2022 will have as its subject "Creating Hope through Action."
- The World Health Organization wishes to convey a message that those who are considering suicide should not give up hope in any way through the programs that will be held on this day.
- The World Health Organization and the International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP) both support World Suicide Prevention Day (WHO).
- The main objective of World Suicide Prevention Day is to increase global awareness of suicide prevention.
- On World Suicide Prevention Day, participants are encouraged to work together and feel empowered to prevent suicide and self-harm.
- The International Association for Suicide Prevention and the World Health Organization launched World Suicide Prevention Day (WSPD) in 2003. (WHO).

Source: Livemint