

Daily Current Affairs

19 April 2023



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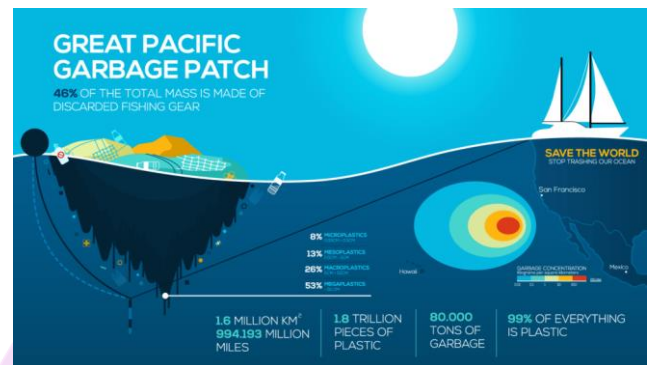


Important News: International

1. Great Pacific Garbage Patch.

Why in news: The Great Pacific Garbage Patch is also described as the Pacific Garbage Vortex, a group of marine debris particles in the central North Pacific Ocean discovered between 1985 and 1988.

A. It is located between about 135°W to 155°W and 35°N to 42°N. The patch is spread over an indefinite area of widely varying range depending on the degree of plastic concentration used to define the affected area.



B. Researchers based in the Netherlands used a fleet of boats and aircraft to scan bottles, containers, fishing nets and huge accumulation of fine particles with the Great Pacific Garbage Patch (GPGP) and found a stunning build-up of plastic waste.

C. The vast dump of plastic waste circulating in the Pacific Ocean is now larger than in France, Germany and Spain and is growing faster than previously feared.

D. The GPGP currently has about 80,000 tonnes of buoyancy plastic. That's around the weight of 500 jumbo jets, and sixteen times more than the plastic mass exposed in previous studies.

E. Heavy concentration of plastic fragments on marine gyre between Hawaii and California. The dump now contains about 1.8 trillion pieces of plastic, posing a double threat to marine life.

(SOURCE - TIMES OF INDIA)



Important News: National

2. Yuva portal

Why in news: In view of the significant impact of the first edition of PM-YUVA Scheme with large scale participation of young and budding authors



in 22 Indian languages and English, PM-YUVA 2.0 is being launched on 2nd October 2022

A.The theme of PM-YUVA 2.0 is Democracy (Institutions, Events, People and Constitutional Values).

B.The scheme will also provide a window to the aspiring youth to articulate themselves and present a comprehensive view of Indian democratic values on domestic and international platforms.

C.Primary objective of PM-YOUTH 2.0 Mentorship Scheme The concept of development of democracy in India and its trajectory need to be studied under various sub-headings such as constitution, women, youth, religion, history, human rights, education, nationalism, culture etc.

D.Selection process for young writers

A total of 75 authors will be selected through a pan-India competition held on the MyGov platform. <https://mygov.in> selection will be done by a committee to be constituted by the NBT.

E.The duration of the competition will be from October 2 to January 15, 2023.

The contestants will be asked to submit a book proposal of 10,000 words.



F.The evaluation period of the proposals will be from 16 January 2023 to 31 March 2023. The national jury meeting will be held in April 2023

G.The names of the selected authors will be announced in May 2023

H.The mentorship period will be from June 1, 2023 to November 30, 2023 The publication of the first set of books will begin from February 1, 2024.

(SOURCE - THE HINDU)

3. National Panchayat Awards Week

Why in news: The Ministry of Panchayati Raj is celebrating the National Panchayat Awards Week from 17th to 21st April this year.



A.The festival aims to recognize the efforts of Panchayati Raj Institutions in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and promoting good governance at the grassroots level.

B.The National Panchayati Raj Day is celebrated every year on 24th April to commemorate the adoption of the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992 that institutionalized Panchayati Raj in India

C.The theme of National Panchayat Awards Week Celebrations 2023 is "Celebrating the Achievement of Panchayats' Resolves", which means "Celebrating the Success of Panchayats' Aspirations".

D.The National Conferences will be held on 18th, 19th and 20th April, 2023 at NASC Campus, New Delhi. The themes of these conferences are "Poverty Free and Enhanced Livelihood Panchayat, Self-Reliant Infrastructure Panchayat and Panchayat with Good Governance", "Child-Friendly Panchayat, Women-Friendly Panchayat, and Socially Safe Panchayat", and "Water Adequate Panchayat, Clean and Green Panchayat and Healthy Panchayat" respectively.

E.Localization of SDGs can be achieved through Panchayati Raj Institutions.

F.Award winning Panchayats under various categories of National Panchayat Awards-2023

(i) Deen Dayal Upadhyay Panchayat Sustainable Development Award for performance under individual LSDG themes

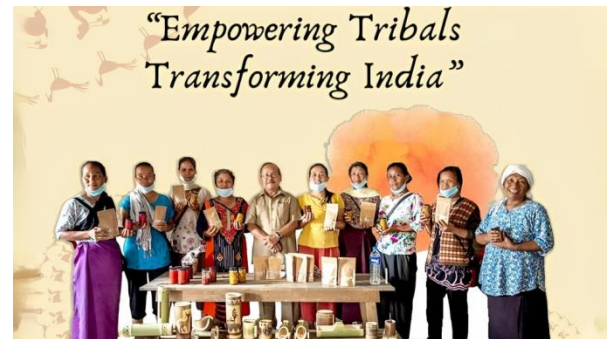


- (ii) Nanaji Deshmukh Best Panchayat Sustainable Development Award
- (iii) Gram Urja Swaraj Vishesh Panchayat Awards and
- (iv) There will be carbon neutral special Panchayat awards. The award money will be digitally transferred to the awardee panchayats on the occasion.

(SOURCE - NEWS ON AIR)

4. PTP-NER Scheme

Why in news: Shri Arjun Munda to launch “Marketing and Logistics Development for Promotion of Tribal Products from North -Eastern Region (PTP-NER)” scheme.



A. The scheme has been formulated to benefit the Scheduled Tribes living in the North Eastern Region by enhancing procurement, logistics and marketing efficiency of tribal products.

B. The scheme will be implemented in eight states namely Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim.

C. Under this scheme, the government is planning to enlist the tribal artisans of the North Eastern region by organizing 68 tribal artisan fairs starting today. These fairs will be held in various districts of the region and will provide a platform to the tribal artisans to showcase their products and skills.

D. The scheme aims to strengthen the livelihood opportunities of tribal artisans by promoting and showcasing their products from the North Eastern States.

(SOURCE - LIVEMINT)



5. Mental health program named "NAMAN" (NIMHANS-AHT Comprehensive Mental-Health Action Program for Rural Communities)

A. The National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) and NGO Ashray Hast Trust (AHT) recently launched nationwide Naman program

B. Naman envisions providing promotive, preventive, therapeutic and rehabilitative care for the entire population of the target taluks using existing human resources in the community.

C. It will be implemented in 4 phases over 3 years. The first phase involves resource creation, which includes recruitment and training of staff. The second phase will involve conducting situational analysis to assess the mental health of the taluks concerned. The third phase is intervention, which includes therapeutic and rehabilitation services. The final step is evaluation.

D. The two taluks selected to implement NAMAN are Munsiyari in Pithoragarh district of Uttarakhand and Belur taluk in Hassan district of Karnataka.

E. NIMHANS will develop and implement the overall roadmap of the programme, and the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Rishikesh will collaborate with NIMHANS to deliver the programme in Uttarakhand. Other implementation partners include the State Governments of Karnataka and Uttarakhand.

(SOURCE - INDIAN EXPRESS)



Important News: States

6. Cumbum grapes GI tag

Why in news: Tamil Nadu's Kumbam grapes, also known as Kumbam Panneer Thrachai, have recently received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.



A. These grapes account for 85 per cent of the grapes grown in Tamil Nadu.

B. The recognition of GI tag will help Kambam grape farmers to protect their product from being repeated by others and will help promote the product in national and international markets.

C. Located on the Western Ghats of Tamil Nadu, the Kumbam Valley, also known as the Kambam Valley, is known as the 'Grape City of South India'.

D. The GI tag will help promote the product and protect the interests of farmers, leading to better prices and profits.

(SOURCE - ECONOMIC TIMES)

Important News: Science

7. ISRO to Launch Singaporean Earth Observation Satellite TeLEOS-02

Why in news: The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will launch Singapore's TELEOS-2 satellite from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota on April 22



A. TELEOS-2 is an earth observation satellite. The launch will be carried out by the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV).

B. Earth observation satellite is also known as earth remote sensing satellite. These satellites observe the planet Earth from space.



C.The first EOS or remote sensing satellite was Sputnik 1, the first artificial satellite sent into Earth's orbit by the Soviet Union in 1957.

D.EOS operate at a distance of about 500 to 600 kilometers from the earth's surface.

E.These satellites can be used for various purposes including environmental monitoring, cartography, navigation and more. The armies of various countries also use earth observation satellites for espionage and communication.

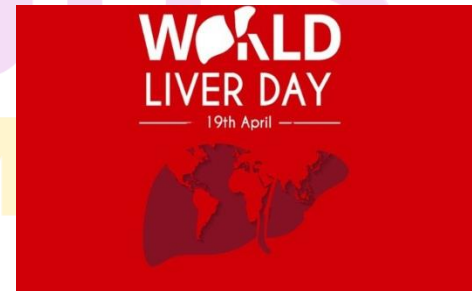
F.In November 2020, with EOS-01, ISRO shifted to a new naming system for its earth observation satellites In February 2022, ISRO successfully launched EOS-04

(SOURCE - NEWS ON AIR)

Important News: Days

8. World liver day

Why in news: World Liver Day (WLD) is celebrated every year on April 19 to raise awareness about the liver and its importance in the human body.



A.According to the World Health Organization (WHO), liver diseases are the 10th most common cause of death in India.

B.World Liver Day is celebrated to promote healthy living, discourage the consumption of fatty foods and raise public awareness about liver diseases.

C.The theme for World Liver Day 2023 is "Be Vigilant, Do Regular Liver Check-Up, Fatty Liver Can Affect Anyone."

D.It is important to prioritize liver health on World Liver Day. Hepatitis, cirrhosis, and liver cancer are examples of liver conditions that can be fatal.

E.The liver is one of the most complex organs in the human body. It plays an important role in our body's immunity, digestion and metabolism. In addition, it also carries out the filtration of toxins, stores vitamins and minerals, and produces bile, among other functions.

(SOURCE - INDIAN EXPRESS)

