

Daily Current Affairs

10 July 2023



Important News: National

1. Chemical Weapons Convention

Why in News:

- The United States of America has destroyed its last stockpile of chemical weapons, reaching a milestone after a history of warfare dating back to World War 1

Key Points:

- The Chemical Weapon Convention is a multilateral treaty that bans stockpiling of chemical weapons and their destruction in a stipulated time frame.
- It was entered into force on April 29, 1997 and it currently has 193 states-parties.
- The members are required to write to OPCW their chemical weapons stockpiles, relevant chemical production facilities and other weapon related information.
- The Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapon implements the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC). It aims to create a world that is free of chemical weapons and of the threat of their use and where chemistry is used for peaceful and developmental purposes.
- India became signatory to the treaty on January 1993.



Source: Indian Express



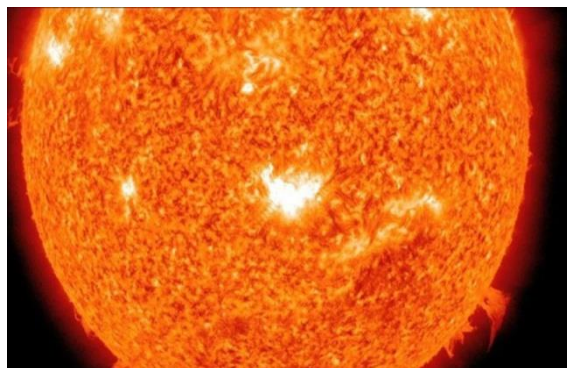
2. Solar flares

Why in News:

- The Sun is emitting X Class solar flares which have disrupted radio communications over parts of the United States and the Pacific Ocean.

Key Points:

- The solar flares are magnetic plasma that the sun ejects from its surface at a great speed.
- The flares are categorized into five different classes of solar flares: A, B, C, M, and X. with each class being 10 times more than its predecessor.
- The class flares are light and have limited effect on the earth. While X class are large and hugely impact Earth's Polar Regions.
- The solar flares released from the sun's surface vastly impact the ionosphere and radio communications at the Earth.
- There solar flares occur due to magnetic energy associated with sunspots.



Source: Business Standard

3. SEBI Complaints Redress System (SCORES) Platform

Why in News:

- The SEBI Complaints Redress System (SCORES) Platform has resolved over 3000 complaints against companies and market intermediaries.



Key Points:

- The SCORES platform is a centralized grievance redressal portal that addresses the complaints lodged in the portal.
- The platform was released by SEBI in 2011.
- The investors can also track their complaints online from the above website from anywhere.
- According to the regulatory authority, complaints can be lodged on SCORES for any issues covered under the Sebi Act, Securities Contract Regulation Act, Depositories Act, and rules and regulations and provisions of Companies Act, 2013.
- The entities against which complaints are handled by SEBI include:
 - Listed companies / registrar & transfer agents
 - Brokers / stock exchanges
 - Depository participants / depository
 - Mutual funds
 - Portfolio Managers
 - Other entities (KYC Collective investment scheme, Merchant banker, Credit rating, Foreign institutional investor etc)
- SEBI was formed in 1988 to monitor and regulates the Indian capital and securities market while protecting the interests of investors.



Source: Times of India

Important News: States

4. Punjab Regiment in Bastille Day Parade

Why in News:

- After 107 years, the Punjab regiment will parade in Paris on the occasion of the Bastille Day Parade.

Key Points:

- Since 1880, the French military holds Bastille Day Parade on 14th July every year. Hence it is also called as the 14 July military parade.



- The day is marked as the National Day of France.
- The people of France stormed the Bastille Prison and the fall of Bastille led to start of the much known French Revolution. The day symbolized people's victory over the monarchy and abolition of feudalism.
- The ideals of Liberty, Fraternity and Equality were espoused during the French Revolution. These ideals are guiding light in the modern day world politics and social landscape.



Source: Livemint

Important News: Economy

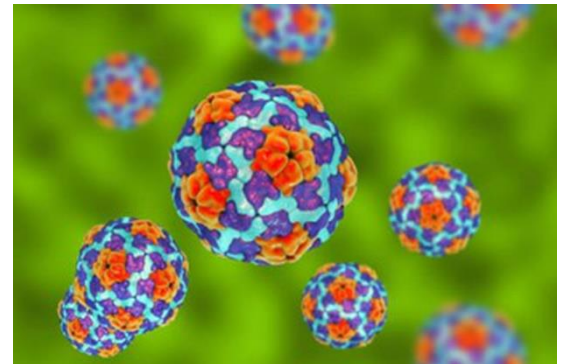
5. Enteroviruses

Why in News:

- The World Health Organization (WHO) has warned against the rising incidence of enterovirus infections in a few countries across Europe.

Key Points:

- The Enteroviruses are a group of viruses that can cause various infectious illnesses and are responsible for annual epidemics.
- There are many kinds of enteroviruses, including coxsackieviruses, echoviruses, polioviruses, and the hepatitis A virus.
- All enteroviruses are antigenically heterogeneous and have wide geographic distribution.
- They can infect anyone, but are more likely to cause illnesses in people with weak immune systems, as well as infants, children, and teens who don't have immunity against a virus yet because it's their first exposure to it.
- There is no specific treatment for enterovirus infection.
- The focus is on easing symptoms until the infection has run its course, which usually takes only a few days.



Source: The Hindu



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Important News: Science

6. World Investment Report 2023.

Why in News:

- India and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) were the top recipients, with a 10% and 5% increase respectively. Asia accounted for over 50% of global FDI.

Key Points:

- The report highlights the widening investment deficit in developing countries as they strive to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly in energy, water, and transport infrastructure.
- India saw a 10% increase in FDI, making it the third-largest host country for greenfield project announcements and the second-largest for international project finance deals.
- It also provides an analysis of global value chains and the operations of multinational enterprises, with special attention to their development implications.
- The report was released by UNCTAD.



Source: Economic Times



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Important News: Economy

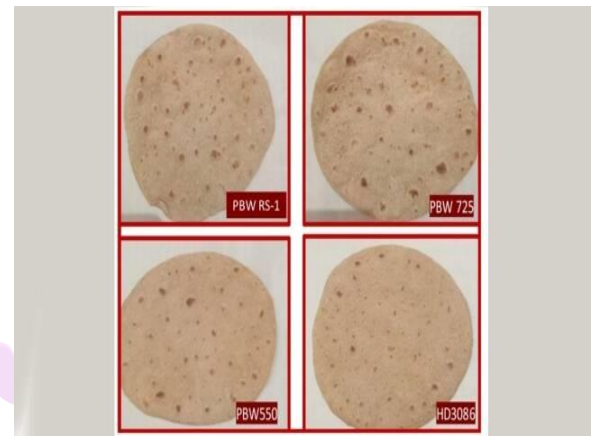
7. New Wheat Variety (PBW RS1)

Why in News:

- The Ludhiana-based institution, which played a pivotal role during the Green Revolution to make India surplus in foodgrains by developing high-yielding strains, has bred a new wheat variety with high amylose starch content, known to reduce risks of type-2 diabetes and cardiovascular diseases.

Key Points:

- PBW RS1 contains high amylose starch content.
- Resistant starch (RS) won't cause an immediate and rapid rise in glucose levels.
- The high amylose and resistant starch, instead, ensure that glucose is released more slowly into the bloodstream.
- The variety has been developed over a period of 10 years by a team of wheat breeders led by Dr V S Sohu, head, department of plant breeding and genetics. Punjab Agriculture University is the first to combine five novel alleles (genes) affecting resistant starch levels for developing this variety.
- Type 2 Diabetes is the condition in which the human body doesn't use insulin well and can't keep blood sugar at normal levels.



Source: Indian Express



Important News: Awards

8. LIGO-India

Why in News:

- LIGO-India, a new gravitational-wave observatory, is set to put India on the research map and contribute to our understanding of the Universe.

Key Points:

- Currently there are two LIGO setups in the US, and a third one will be built in the Hingoli district of Maharashtra, India. The facility's construction is expected to be completed by 2030.
- The LIGO (Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory) is a physics experiment designed to detect gravitational waves, which are ripples in the fabric of spacetime caused by massive objects in accelerated motion.
- Gravitational waves are ripples in the fabric of space and time that travel at the speed of light. They are created by the motion of massive objects, such as black holes or neutron stars, which generate gravitational waves when they orbit or collide with each other.
- Gravitational waves are extremely weak and difficult to detect. They were first directly detected by the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO) in 2015, a century after they were predicted by Einstein's theory.



Source: Economic Times

