

Daily Current Affairs

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July 2023**Important News: National****1. The 3rd edition of the National e-Governance Service Delivery Assessment (NeSDA) portal****Why in News:**

- In order to measure the depth effectiveness of existing e-Governance service delivery mechanisms from the citizen's perspective, the DARGP has developed the NeSDA portal.

Key Points:

- The framework of NeSDA portal has been based on the Online Service Index of the UN e-governance survey which was re-designed for Indian federal polity.
- The agreement was signed between the Indian Ministry of Education, IIT Madras and Tanzania's Ministry of Education and Vocational Training Zanzibar.
- The biennial survey conducted by the DARGP is to assess the performance of the states and the central ministries on e-governance services delivery.
- The 2 editions of NeSDA portal were launched as the NeSDA 2019 and NeSDA 2021. The 3rd edition will cover the following features –
 - Portals Coverage: will now cover at the City level by assessing City Portal i.e., the official portal of respective City/Urban Local Body that provides a single window access to the information and links to the services being provided for the citizens and other stakeholders in the city.
 - Focus Sectors and Mandatory Services Coverage – earlier 7 sectors were covered, with the 3rd edition of NeSDA more sectors, departments and services will be assessed.
 - Assessment Parameters: 3 additional parameters include the Open Government Data (OGD), E-Participation, and Leveraging Emerging



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Technologies.

Source: Indian Express

2. Ubinas Volcano

Why in News:

- The Ubinas volcano of Peru has recently become active after 4 years of dormancy.

Key Points:

- The volcano is a strato-volcano and it is located in the Central Volcanic Zone of the Andes. It is one of the most active volcanoes in the Peru region.
- The affected area is located in the Ring of Fire region that is famously known for its volcanic activities and seismic events.
- The strato-volcano is a tall, steep, and cone-shaped type of volcano. They have steep slopes unlike the Hawaiian shield volcanoes.
- Strato Volcanoes comprise the largest percentage (~60%) of the Earth's individual volcanoes.



Source: Business Standard

3. OpenKylin

Why in News:

- The first open source desktop operating system released by the China is called OpenKylin.



Key Points:

- The desktop has been built by a community of 4000 developers and is based on Linux operating system.
- The customers can get access to the software lines of code and can modify them as per their needs, unlike the Apple and Microsoft which keeps their workings as a secret.
- An Open-source OS is the OS in which source code is visible publicly and editable.
- Closed Operating Systems are built with numerous codes and complex programming and that is called source code. This source code is kept secret by the respective companies (owners) and inaccessible to third parties.
- In the case of an Open-Source Operating system, everyone can access and edit the source code.



Source: Times of India

Important News: States

4. India's First Indigenous 700 MW Nuclear Reactor Starts Commercial Operation in Gujarat

Why in News:

- India has achieved a milestone by domestically building 700 MW nuclear reactor at the Kakrapar Atomic Power Project in Gujarat.

Key Points:

- The reactor called KAPP-3, began operating at 90 percent of its total power capacity on June 30, 2023.



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- The Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) is building two 700 MW pressurised heavy water reactors (PHWRs) at Kakrapar, which is also home to two 220 MW power plants.
- The construction of 700 MW nuclear power plants is underway at Rawatbhata in Rajasthan (RAPS 7 and 8) and at Gorakhpur in Haryana (GHAVP 1 and 2).
- The government has sanctioned building of 10 indigenously developed PHWRs in fleet mode at four locations -- Gorakhpur in Haryana, Chutka in Madhya Pradesh, Mahi Banswara in Rajasthan and Kaiga in Karnataka.



Source: Livemint

Important News: Economy

5. SWAMIH Fund

Why in News:

- PM Modi has congratulated the new homeowners in Bengaluru who have been benefitted in owning new houses through SWAMIH fund.

Key Points:

- The Special Window for Affordable and Mid-Income Housing (SWAMIH) funds was constituted as a social impact fund to help in completing stalled residential projects.
- The fund is sponsored by the Ministry of Finance and managed by the SBICAP Ventures Ltd.
- It is a Category-II AIF (Alternate Investment Fund) debt fund registered with the Securities and Exchange Board of India.
- The projects must be classified as Non-Performing Assets or under insolvency proceedings to be eligible to receive funds under the scheme. Further, the stalled project must be under the affordable and mid-income housing categories.

SWAMIH Fund



Source: The Hindu



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Important News: Defense

6. EXERCISE – SALVEX

Why in News:

- The 7th edition of Indian Navy – US Navy (IN – USN) Salvage and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) exercise, SALVEX was conducted from 26 Jun – 06 Jul 23 at Kochi.

Key Points:

- The exercise was first held in 2012, so this is the 11th anniversary of JIMEX.
- The two nations the India and the USA is conducting the joint Salvage and EOD exercises since 2005.
- The exercise saw participation from both the navies which included the ships – INS Nireekshak and USNS Salvor in addition to Specialist Diving and EOD teams.
- The diving teams from both the nations shared their experiences on Maritime salvage and trained together in various facets of EOD operations.
- The exercised was aimed at enhancing the inter-operability, cohesiveness and gaining from best practices from each other.



Source: Economic Times



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Important News: Economy

7. Centre announces scheme for minor rape victims

Why in News:

- The special scheme aims to provide integrated support and assistance to girl child victims under one roof, including maternity, neo-natal and infant care, psychological and legal support.

Key Points:

- According to National Crime Records Bureau data, 51,863 cases were reported under the Pocso Act in 2021, and of them, 33,348 or 64% cases were of sexual assault.
- The scheme, announced by the Women and Child Development Ministry, will operate under the Nirbhaya Fund.
- The scheme leverages the administrative structure of Mission Vatsalya, a program focused on child protection and welfare, in collaboration with state governments and Child Care Institutions (CCIs).
- The government has already established 415 fast-track courts under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act to accelerate access to justice for minor rape victims.
- The support will be available to minor victims up to the age of 18, and up to the age of 23 in aftercare facilities.



Source: Indian Express



Important News: Awards

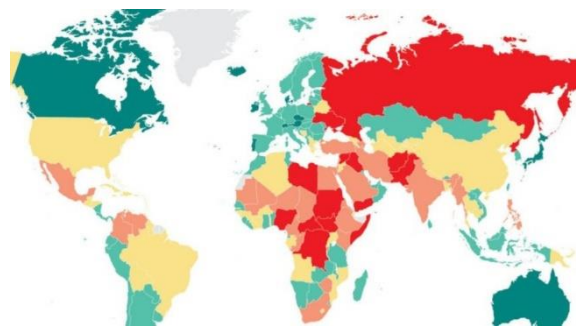
8. Global Peace Index

Why in News:

- The Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP) has recently released its Global Peace Index.

Key Points:

- The Index has ranked 163 nations and territories on the basis of peacefulness.
- The assessment measures three domains - Societal safety and security; Ongoing domestic and international conflict; Militarization.
- The report mentions that the average level of the peace has been deteriorated by 0.42 per cent.
- Since 2008, Iceland has been the most peaceful country in the world. It is accompanied by the Denmark, Ireland, New Zealand, and Austria.
- Afghanistan is the least peaceful country followed by the Yemen, Syria, South Sudan, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
- India is at 126th rank which has been improved from the last year ranking.



Source: Economic Times

