

Daily Current Affairs 8 January 2024



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Important News: International

ISRO successfully enters the Aditya L1 satellite into the final orbit

Why in News:

- The Indian Space Research Organisation, ISRO successfully entered the Aditya L1 satellite into final orbit on 6th Jan 2024.

Key Points:

- Aditya-L1 will be the 1st Indian space mission to study the sun, to be launched by Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV).
- Spacecraft shall be placed in a halo orbit around Lagrangian point 1 (L1) of the Sun-Earth system, about 1.5 million km from Earth.
- There are 7 payloads on board with four of them carrying out remote sensing of the Sun & three carrying in-situ observation.
- Objectives:
 - Study the Sun's corona, solar emissions, solar winds & flares & Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs)
 - carry out round-the-clock imaging of the Sun.

Source: News on AIR

Researchers create the world's first functional graphene semiconductor

Why in News:

- Researchers recently created the world's 1st functional semiconductor made from graphene

Key Points:

- Researchers from China and the U.S. have jointly developed the world's first functional semiconductor made from graphene, paving the way for smaller, faster, and more efficient electronic products.
- The researchers grew graphene on silicon carbide wafers using a special furnace to produce epitaxial graphene.
- They found that if made properly, the epitaxial graphene will chemically bond with the silicon carbide and exhibit semiconducting properties.



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- The team's measurement showed that the graphene semiconductor has 10 times greater mobility than silicon.
- Semiconductors are materials that conduct electricity under certain conditions, which are the basic components of electronic devices.

Source: CGTN

Important News: National

Several products have been awarded the Geographical Indications (GI) tag

Why in News:

- Multiple products ranging from Odisha's Lanjia paintings to Arunachal's Wancho Wooden Craft to West Bengal's Kai Chutney have been awarded the Geographical Indication tag.

Key Points:

- The traditional Lanjia Saura paintings, the exquisitely embroidered Dongaria Kondh shawl, and the delicious Khajuri Guda from Odisha have been awarded GI tags.
- Odisha's Dhenkanal Magji, a milk product, and Similipal Kai Chutney also got a GI tag.
- From Arunachal Pradesh, the Wancho Wooden Craft has been awarded a GI tag.
- Geographical Indications Registry in Chennai has also given tags to three products from West Bengal – the Tangail Saree of Bengal, Garad Saree, and Korial Saree.
- The other products that were given a GI tag are West Bengal's Kalonunia Rice, West Bengal's Sundarban Honey, Gujarat's Kachchi Kharek; Jammu Kashmir's Ramban Anardana; Koraput Kalajeera Rice and the Arunachal Pradesh Adi Kekir (Ginger).
- The Nayagarh Kanteimundi Brinjal, a vegetable crop with lots of prickly thorns on the flesh as well as the whole plant grown in Nayagarh district of Odisha also received a tag.

Source: The Hindu



Supreme Court Legal Services Committee (SCLSC)

Why in News:

- Supreme Court judge Justice BR Gavai has been nominated as the Chairman of the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee (SCLSC), succeeding Justice Sanjiv Khanna.

Key Points:

- Supreme Court Legal Services Committee, is an effort to provide legal aid and assistance to the marginalized and weaker sections of the Society.
- The Supreme Court Legal Services Committee was constituted under Section 3A of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, to provide “free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of society”, in cases falling under the top court’s jurisdiction.
- The Committee consists of - A sitting Judge of the Hon’ble Supreme Court, who is the Chairman, and 9 members nominated by Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India.
- The SCLSC is a Statutory Body and is a Government Department under the Department of Justice, Ministry of Law & Justice, Government of India.
- The need for providing legal services has been underlined in many provisions of the Indian Constitution. For example - Article 39A

Source: Indian Express

Wetland City Accreditation (WCA)

Why in News:

- The Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has nominated Indore, Bhopal, and Udaipur for Wetland City Accreditation (WCA) under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.

Key Points:

- It is the first nomination of its kind by the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEF&CC).



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- These are the first three Indian cities for which nominations have been submitted for WCA based on the proposals received from respective State Wetlands Authorities in collaboration with the Municipal Corporations.
- The wetlands situated in and around these cities provide a plethora of benefits to its citizens in terms of flood regulation, livelihood opportunities, and recreational and cultural values.
- Sirpur Wetland (Ramsar site in Indore), Yashwant Sagar (Ramsar site closer to Indore), Bhoj Wetland (Ramsar Site in Bhopal), and several Wetlands (Lakes) in and around Udaipur are lifelines to these cities.
- The WCA is a voluntary accreditation system established by the Ramsar Convention during the Conference of the Contracting Parties (COP) 12, 2015 to recognize cities that have taken exceptional steps to safeguard their urban wetlands.
- The scheme aims to promote the conservation and wise use of urban and peri-urban wetlands, as well as sustainable socio-economic benefits for local populations.
- The WCA is valid for 6 years.

Source: PIB

EAM Jaishankar to represent India at Uganda NAM Summit in January 2024

Why in News:

- India's External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar will represent India at the upcoming Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Summit in Uganda's capital Kampala January 2024.

Key Points:

- Scheduled from January 17 to 20, 2024, the 19th edition of the NAM summit will be preceded by a crucial foreign ministerial meeting from January 15.
- The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) is a forum of 120 countries that are not formally aligned with or against any major power bloc.



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- It was founded with the view to advancing the interests of developing countries in the context of Cold War confrontation.
- After the United Nations, it is the largest grouping of states worldwide.
- In 1961, the Non-Aligned Movement was formally established in Belgrade, Yugoslavia.
- This initiative was drawn from the principles agreed upon at the Bandung Conference of 1955.
- The movement was spearheaded by Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito, along with the collaborative efforts of Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser, Ghanaian President Kwame Nkrumah, and Indonesian President Sukarno.

Source: The Economic Times

3rd edition of Project 'Veer Gatha', witnesses overwhelming response pan India

Why in News:

- The third edition of Project 'Veer Gatha', as part of Republic Day celebrations, has witnessed an overwhelming response pan India. As per the Defence Ministry, around 1.37 crore students from around 2.43 lakh schools participated in the initiative.

Key Points:

- The Government had launched Project 'Veer Gatha' as part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' to celebrate the 75th year of Independence.
- The initiative is aimed at disseminating the details of acts of bravery of the Gallantry awardees and the life stories of these brave hearts among the students so as to raise the spirit of patriotism.
- The Defence Ministry informed that out of these students, a hundred winner students are being selected at the national level.



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- Each winner will be awarded a cash prize of ten thousand rupees and will get an opportunity to witness the Republic Day Parade 2024 at Kartavya Path as a special guest.

Source: News on AIR

