

Daily Current Affairs

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World Migratory Bird Day

- World Migratory Bird Day is an **annual awareness-raising campaign** highlighting the need for the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats.
- It has a global outreach and is an effective tool to help raise global awareness of the threats faced by migratory birds, their ecological importance, and the need for international cooperation to conserve them.
- World Migratory Bird Day is officially celebrated on the second Saturday of May in Canada and the US (May 13th in 2023), and the second Saturday of October in Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean (October 14th in 2023).
- The theme “**Water: Sustaining Bird Life.**”
- The campaign is a **joint effort** of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), the African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA), Environment for the Americas and the EAAFP.
- The addition of the EAAFP to this Partnership will strengthen engagement and awareness for migratory birds in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway.



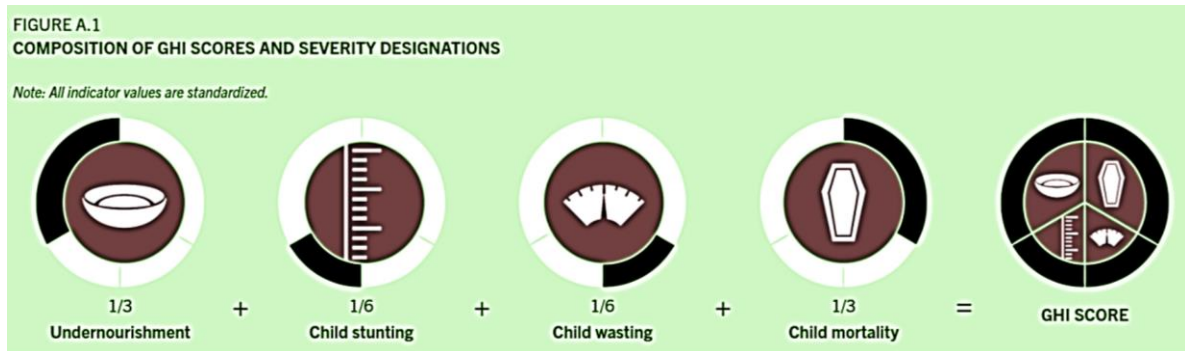
Global Hunger Index 2023

- India ranked **111th out of 125 countries** in the Global Hunger Index 2023
- India has a score of **28.7**, indicating a serious level of hunger.
- The country came after neighbouring countries Pakistan (102nd), Bangladesh (81st), Nepal (69th) and Sri Lanka (60th). However, India fared better than South Asia and Africa South of the Sahara, which recorded a score of 27 each
- India's child wasting rate at 18.7%, the highest globally, signalling acute undernutrition. Wasting is measured based on children's weight relative to their height.
- According to the index, the rate of undernourishment in India stood at 16.6% and under-five mortality at 3.1 per cent.



- The Prevalence Of Anaemia In Women Aged Between 15 And 24 Years Stood At 58.1 Percent.
- Global Hunger Index is a tool for comprehensively **measuring and tracking hunger** at global, regional, and national levels.
- Jointly published by **Concern Worldwide and Welthungerhilfe**, non-governmental organizations from Ireland and Germany.
- GHI scores are based on the values of four component indicators:
 - **Undernourishment**- Not Eating Enough Food To Continue Good Health.
 - **Child stunting**- Child stunting refers to a child who is too short for his or her age and is the result of chronic or recurrent malnutrition
 - **Child wasting**- a child who is too thin for his or her height and is the result of recent rapid weight loss or the failure to gain weight.

- **Child mortality** rate is the probability of dying between exact age one and age five, defined as the number of deaths of children age 1-4 years per 1,000 children surviving to age 12 months.



- The government, however, rejected the index calling it a flawed measure of "hunger" that does not reflect India's true position.
- The **Women and Child Development Ministry** said the index suffers from "serious methodological issues and shows a malafide intent".



RITES Ltd Granted 'Navratna' Status

- **RITES Ltd**, a well-known Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) functioning under the **Ministry of Railways**, has recently reached a significant milestone by being awarded the esteemed '**Navratna**' status, becoming the 16th CPSE in India to be honored with this prestigious title.

- RITES Ltd is renowned for its **expertise in transport infrastructure** consultancy, railway inspection, rolling stock leasing and maintenance, and a range of related services.
- The conferral of Navratna status is a testament to its valuable contributions to the nation's progress and development.
- The achievement of Navratna status unlocks various benefits for RITES Ltd, which include:
- **Mergers and Acquisitions:** With the acquisition of Navratna status, the Board of Directors of CPSEs gain the authority to engage in mergers and acquisitions both within India and internationally, thereby amplifying the growth prospects of RITES Ltd.
- **Investment Opportunities:** While having the ability to invest abroad, these CPSEs must secure approval from the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) for foreign investments, opening up avenues for global expansion.
- **Streamlined Business Trips:** The Chief Executive of the PSU is empowered to authorize emergency business trips abroad for functional directors, limited to a maximum duration of five days (excluding study tours and seminars), with a mandatory intimation to the Secretary of the administrative ministry.
- The Indian government categorizes Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) into three groups: Maharatna, Navratna, and Miniratna. To qualify for Navratna status, a PSU must fulfill specific criteria, including demonstrating exceptional financial performance and operational excellence.



RBI Imposes Penalty On Paytm Payments Bank

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** imposed a substantial fine of **₹5.39 crore** on **Paytm Payments Bank**, citing several instances of non-compliance with the RBI's guidelines.
- The penalties were enforced due to the failure to adhere to specific provisions related to Know Your Customer (**KYC protocols**), cybersecurity measures, and other regulatory requirements.
- Paytm Payments Bank faced repercussions for "non-compliance with certain provisions of the 'Reserve Bank of India (Know Your Customer (KYC) Directions, 2016.'"
- In addition to the KYC violations, the bank was found to have neglected **cybersecurity measures**. The RBI guidelines for licensing of payment banks and the "Cybersecurity framework in banks" were not sufficiently observed.
- The RBI also pointed out the bank's **failure to identify the beneficial owners** of entities onboarded for providing payout services. The identification of the genuine owners of these entities is critical for ensuring transparency and preventing illicit activities.
- Payout Transactions Monitoring and Risk Profiling : The bank was found to have **shortcomings in monitoring payout transactions** and conducting risk profiling of entities utilizing payout services. Effective monitoring and thorough risk assessment are imperative for guarding against financial irregularities. Customer Advance Account Balances
- Paytm Payments Bank was also penalized for not **adhering to the regulatory ceiling** concerning the end-of-day balance in certain customer advance accounts that availed payout services. This lack of compliance raises concerns about the security and integrity of customer funds.



IOC's Suspends Russian Olympic Committee

- The International Olympic Committee's Executive Board has imposed **suspension on the Russian Olympic Committee** for a breach of the Olympic Charter.
- The Executive Board in their statement mentioned that Russian Olympic Committee is no longer entitled to operate as a National Olympic Committee (NOC), as defined in the Olympic Charter.



- The decision was taken as Russia **has violated the territorial integrity of the NOC of Ukraine**, as recognized by the International Olympic Committee. As a result of this, Russia cannot receive any funding from the Olympic Movement.
- The Board also mentioned that suspension would not affect **Russian athletes competing as neutrals**. IOC reserves the right to decide about the participation of individual neutral athletes with a Russian passport in the Olympic Games Paris 2024 and the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026 at the appropriate time.



Michael Douglas-Satyajit Ray Excellence Film Award

- Hollywood actor and Producer **Michael Douglas** will be conferred with Satyajit Ray Excellence in Film Lifetime Award at the 54th International Film Festival in Goa.
- The **54th edition of International Film Festival of India (IFFI)**, known for its celebration of cinema from around the world, is scheduled to take place from November 20 to 28 in the beautiful coastal state of Goa.



- This iconic event promises to be a cinematic extravaganza, showcasing the best of contemporary and classic films from India and across the globe.
- Established in **1952**, the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) has firmly established itself as a leading film festival in Asia.



Neeraj Chopra appointed Laureus Ambassador

- Asian Games gold medalist and reigning Olympic and World Champion in men's javelin, **Neeraj Chopra**, has been honored as a **Laureus Ambassador**, pledging his support to the Laureus Sport for Good initiative.
- This recognition comes as a result of his historic achievement at the Tokyo Olympics, where he secured the first-ever gold medal for an Indian track and field athlete.
- Neeraj's association with Laureus began in 2022 when he was shortlisted for the Breakthrough of the Year award at the Laureus World Sports Awards.



Gold medalist Neeraj Chopra appointed Laureus Ambassador

- **Laureus is a global sports-based charity** with a core mission of improving the lives of young people. It employs various initiatives, including the Sport for Good program, the World Sports Academy, the Ambassador program, and the World Sports Awards, to harness the inspirational power of sports as a force for positive transformation.
- The organization supports over **300 programs worldwide** that utilize sports to combat inequality and discrimination, particularly for young people.



Sivasankari Presented With Saraswati Samman

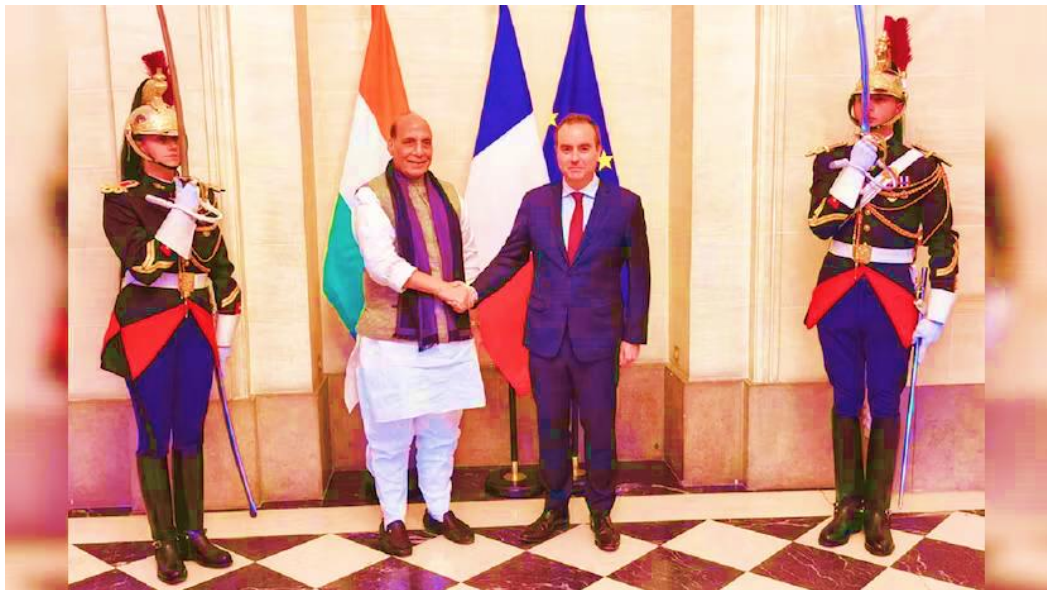
- Tamil writer **Sivasankari** was honored with the prestigious ‘**Saraswati Samman**’ for her memoirs, “**Surya Vamsam.**”
- The award, presented by the K.K. Birla Foundation, was given to her by former Union Minister M. Veerappa Moily, along with a citation, a plaque, and a prize of ₹15 lakh.
- The book was selected by a Chayan Parishad (Selection Committee), led by former Supreme Court judge Arjan Kumar Sikri. The committee’s discerning judgment highlighted the exceptional literary value of Surya Vamsam.
- **Surya Vamsam**, a two-volume work, offers a profound glimpse into **the life of an innocent child who evolved into an acclaimed author**. Additionally, the book beautifully reflects the societal transformations that have occurred over the past seven decades.



India France Defence Ministers Hold 5th Dialogue

- Shri **Rajnath Singh**, the Indian Defence Minister, concluded **his two-nation European tour** with a significant meeting in **Paris** with the French Minister of Armed Forces, **Mr. Sebastien Lecornu**.
- The 5th Annual Defence Dialogue between the two ministers was marked by discussions spanning various aspects of defense cooperation. Assessment of the Regional Situation
- The ministers evaluated the existing **regional security landscape**, underscoring the significance of strategic collaboration between India and France in the face of evolving global challenges.

- They examined the ongoing military-to-military engagements, emphasizing the imperative to bolster these alliances.
- Both ministers deliberated on approaches to **elevate defense industrial cooperation** between India and France, acknowledging its reciprocal advantages.
- They scrutinized the progress of ongoing defense projects, aiming to ensure their successful implementation in alignment with strategic objectives.
- Exploration of Specialized Collaborations
- Discussions extended to the exploration of **potential collaborations** in specialized domains such as space, cyber, and Artificial Intelligence, highlighting the necessity to remain at the forefront of technological advancements.
- Shri Rajnath Singh visited the **Safran Engine Division's R&D Centre** in Gennevilliers, where he witnessed the latest breakthroughs in aero-engine technology, reinforcing the defense bonds between India and France.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. India's Rank In The Global Hunger Index 2023

- A. 60th
- B. 69th
- C. 107th
- D. 111th

ANSWER: D

2. India's Score In The Global Hunger Index 2023

- A. Score 16.6- GHI
- B. Score 18.7- GHI
- C. Score 27- GHI
- D. Score 28.7- GHI

ANSWER: D

3. Which Organization Jointly Publishes The Global Hunger Index

- A. UNICEF & Concern Worldwide
- B. UNESCO & Oxfam
- C. Concern Worldwide & Welthungerhilfe
- D. WHO & World Bank

ANSWER: C

4. Term "Child Wasting" Refer To In The Global Hunger Index

- A. Excessive Weight Gain In Children
- B. A Child Who Is Too Tall For His Or Her Age
- C. A Child Who Is Too Thin For His Or Her Height
- D. Child Obesity

ANSWER: C

5. What Does Child Stunting Signify In The Global Hunger Index

- A. A Child Who Is Too Short For His Or Her Age Due To Malnutrition
- B. A Child Who Is Overweight For His Or Her Age
- C. A Child Who Is Exceptionally Tall For His Or Her Age
- D. A Child Who Is Physically Underdeveloped

ANSWER: A

6. Which CPSE Was Recently Awarded The 'Navratna' Status In India

- A. BHEL
- B. RITES
- C. ONGC
- D. SAIL

ANSWER: B

7. Reason Behind The Suspension Of Russian Olympic Committee

- A. Violation Of Territorial Integrity
- B. Doping Scandal
- C. Financial Irregularities
- D. Mismanagement Of Funds

ANSWER: A

8. Who Is Being Conferred With Satyajit Ray Excellence Film Lifetime Award At 54th International Film Festival In Goa

- A. Robert De Niro
- B. Will Smith
- C. Michael Douglas
- D. Johnny Depp

ANSWER: C

9. Who Has Been Appointed As A Laureus Ambassador

- A. Neeraj Chopra
- B. Harmanpreet Kaur
- C. Virat Kohli
- D. Avinash Sable

ANSWER: A

10. What Is The Purpose Of The Global Hunger Index

- A. Measuring Global Poverty
- B. Monitoring Hunger Levels Worldwide
- C. Assessing Medical Disparities
- D. Evaluating Healthcare Facilities Globally

ANSWER: B

11. Main Reason For Penalty Imposed By RBI On Paytm Payment Bank

- A. Violation Of Cybersecurity Measures
- B. Failure To Follow International Banking Regulations
- C. Non-compliance With Stock Market Regulations
- D. Violation Of Environmental Standards

ANSWER: A

12. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Conclude His European Tour With

- A. Germany
- B. France
- C. Denmark
- D. United Kingdom

ANSWER: B

**13. Company Secured 810 MW Solar Photovoltaic Power Project From Rajasthan
Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited**

- A. NLC India Ltd.
- B. Adani Green Energy Ltd.
- C. Tata Power Company Ltd.
- D. Reliance Industries Ltd.

ANSWER: A

14. Who Is Known As The "Father Of History"

- A. Thucydides
- B. Herodotus
- C. Livy
- D. Tacitus

ANSWER: B

15. Who Is Known As The "Father Of Microbiology"

- A. Antonie Van Leeuwenhoek
- B. Louis Pasteur
- C. Robert Koch
- D. Jonas Salk

ANSWER: A

16.Which Country Funded The Padma Bridge Rail Link In Bangladesh

- A. India
- B. Japan
- C. South Korea
- D. China

ANSWER: D

17.State Government Approved 1000-km Long Economic Corridor Project With Investment Of Rs 3000 Crore In October 2023

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Bihar
- C. Assam
- D. Madhya Pradesh

ANSWER: C

18.Which Bank Was Stopped By RBI From Adding New Customers To Its Mobile App In October 2023

- A. State Bank of India
- B. HDFC Bank
- C. ICICI Bank
- D. Bank of Baroda

ANSWER: D

19.ISRO Scheduled To Conduct The Maiden Test Flight Of The Gaganyaan Mission

- A. October 10
- B. October 21
- C. October 31
- D. November 10

ANSWER: B

20.Chairman Of Association Of Mutual Funds In India

- A. A Balasubramanian
- B. Antony Heredia
- C. Navneet Munot
- D. Rajesh Desai

ANSWER: C

 **SSBCrack**
EXAMS