

Daily Current Affairs

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South East Asia's First Night Sky Sanctuary

- Ladakh will have South East Asia's **first Night Sky Sanctuary**, Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh.
- The Minister informed that the Sanctuary is being set up with the help of Indian **Institute of Astrophysics Bengaluru**, which is affiliated to the Department of Science & Technology, Govt of India.
- He profusely appreciated the **Lt Governor of Ladakh, Brig (Retd) B.D. Mishra** for his active cooperation in the project.
- On behalf of the Ministry of Science & Technology and CSIR, we will request the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to inaugurate the Night Sky Reserve at Hanle, the Minister said.
- The Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, was addressing the gathering after inaugurating the exhibition 'Ladakh's Pride' being held here to mark the fourth anniversary of the establishment of the Union Territory of Ladakh.



- The Dark Sky Reserve will be located at Hanle village in Eastern Ladakh as a part of Changthang Wildlife Sanctuary.
- It will boost Astro-tourism in India and will be one of the **world's highest-located sites for optical, infra-red, and gamma-ray telescopes**.

- Spread over 1,073 square kilometres, the **Night Sky Reserve** is located within the Changthang Wildlife Sanctuary and adjacent to the Indian Astronomical Observatory, the second-highest optical telescope in the world, of Indian Institute of Astrophysics at Hanle at an elevation of 4500 metres.
- “At a time when the country is celebrating the success of Chandrayaan-3 and **Aditya-L1 solar mission**, this **Dark Sky Reserve** will fascinate the stargazers, being among only the 15 or 16 of its kind in the world,” said Dr Jitendra Singh.



ISSF World Cup Final 2023

- In Shooting, Indian shooter **Anish Bhanwala** won the **bronze medal** in the men’s 25m rapid fire pistol event at the ISSF World Cup Final 2023 in Doha, Qatar yesterday.
- Competing at the Lusail Shooting Range, Anish Bhanwala scored 27 out of 35 for third place in the final.
- It was also the **first medal for India in the men’s 25m rapid fire pistol** event in the ISSF World Cup Final history.
- The ISSF World Cup Final 2023 is being held for rifle, pistol, and shotgun shooters. It will conclude with team events.



Khelo India Para Games 2023

- In a momentous event held in New Delhi, **Shri Anurag Singh Thakur**, Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, unveiled the logo and mascot for the **first-ever Khelo India Para Games 2023**.
- This historic occasion was graced by the presence of eminent athletes and para athletes, marking a significant step towards inclusivity and recognition in Indian sports.
- The **official mascot, 'Ujjwala,' a sparrow**, was revealed during the ceremony. Representing the pride of Delhi, this little sparrow stands as a symbol of determination and empathy.
- Ujjwala embodies the spirit of **Khelo India – Para Games 2023**, sending a powerful message that strength manifests in diverse forms, and the human spirit is unbreakable.
- Since its inception in 2018, Khelo India has successfully hosted 11 games, including Youth Games, University Games, and Winter Games.
- Shri Thakur emphasized the instrumental role these games have played in identifying and nurturing talent across the nation.
- With the introduction of Khelo India Para Games, the initiative **aims to further extend its impact by identifying and supporting talented para athletes**, contributing to India's success in multi-discipline events.



Booker Prize 2023

- Paul Lynch who is an **Irish author won the 2023 Booker prize** for his fifth novel **'Prophet Song'** beating London-based Indian-origin author Chetna Maroo's debut novel "Western Lane", at a ceremony in London last night.
- After being honoured with the award. The novel, Lynch's fifth, seeks to show the **unrest in Western democracies** and their indifference towards disasters

such as the implosion of Syria. The author **receives £50,000** and was presented with his trophy.



- The storyline of the book is set in imagined future Ireland that descends into oppressive rule.
- The story suggests that civil war leads to families' fleeing Ireland. The story centres on alternate Dublin where members of the newly formed secret police, established by a government proceed towards totalitarianism.
- The protagonist Eilish is a microbiologist who looks after her four children and her elderly father amid civil war following disappearance of her husband.
- Eilish's husband, a senior official in the Teachers' Union of Ireland goes into hiding when secret police knocks at their door .
- Last year, **Shehan Karunatilaka** won the Booker prize for '**The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida,**' whose story centres on Sri Lankan civil war.

India's Largest Tiger Reserve

- In a landmark development, **Damoh district in Madhya Pradesh** is poised to become the home of the country's largest tiger reserve, marking a significant stride in wildlife conservation efforts.



Madhya Pradesh: India's Largest Tiger Reserve to be Set Up in Damoh

- The central government has greenlit the **merger of Noradehi Sanctuary with the Durgavati Sanctuary in Damoh**, creating an expansive tiger reserve spanning an impressive **2,300 square kilometers**.
- The central government's issuance of a notification approving the merger reflects a commitment to preserving and protecting India's **rich biodiversity**.
- The amalgamation of these two sanctuaries underscores the nation's dedication to creating substantial habitats for its tiger population.



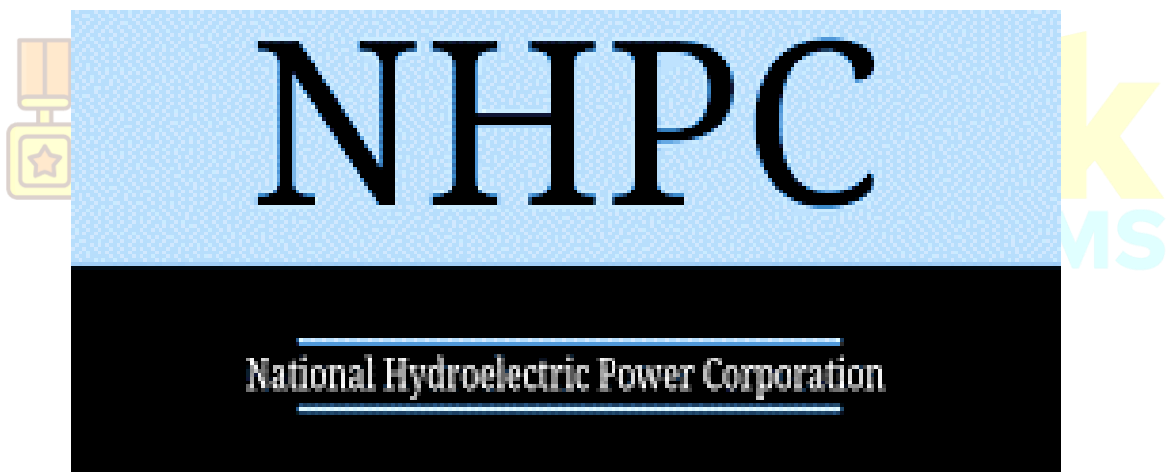
Ayushman Arogya Mandir

- The central government **renamed Ayushman Bharat-Health and Wellness Centres as Ayushman Arogya Mandir** with the tagline Arogyam Paramam Dhanam.
- In a letter to all States and Union Territories, the **Union Health Ministry** has issued guidelines to suitably replace the existing title across all operationalized Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centres.
- The Ministry has also asked to upload pictures of the primary health facilities upon successful completion of the renaming task.



PRSI National Awards 2023

- **NHPC Limited**, the leading **hydropower company** in India, secured the second prize in the 'Annual Report' category at the '**PRSI National Awards 2023.**'
- This accolade was bestowed upon NHPC during the International Public Relations Festival hosted by the Public Relations Society of India (PRSI) in New Delhi.
- The award specifically acknowledges the exceptional quality, layout, and design of **NHPC's Annual Report for the fiscal year 2022-23.**
- NHPC Limited, headquartered in Faridabad, India, is a prominent public sector hydropower company with a rich history dating back to its incorporation in 1975.
- Initially established with the primary goal of planning, promoting, and organizing the integrated development of hydroelectric power, NHPC has evolved over the years to embrace a diverse range of energy sources.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. **HQ Of International Sugar Organisation**
 - A. Paris
 - B. London
 - C. New Delhi
 - D. New York

ANSWER: B

2. Mabella Seen In News Is

- A. Vaccine
- B. Disease
- C. Spacecraft
- D. Dance Form

ANSWER: A

3. Changthang Wildlife Sanctuary Located In

- A. Kerala
- B. Tamil Nadu
- C. Ladakh
- D. Daman & Diu

ANSWER: C

4. Khelo India Para Games Mascot 2023 Launched Recently Is

- A. Ujjwala
- B. Beaver
- C. Brown Bear
- D. Raccoon

ANSWER: A

5. Who Won Booker Prize 2023

- A. Chetna Maroo
- B. Paul Lynch
- C. Shehan Karunatilaka
- D. Anna Burns

ANSWER: B

6. Novel Selected For Booker Prize 2023

- A. The Bee Sting
- B. Western Lane
- C. Prophet Song
- D. This Other Eden

ANSWER: C

7. India's Largest Tiger Reserve To Be Set Up In

- A. Madhya Pradesh
- B. Gujrat
- C. Kerala
- D. Tamil Nadu

ANSWER: A

8. Which State Released An Exclusive Book On Its Snakes

- A. Himachal Pradesh
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Assam
- D. Kerala

ANSWER: A

9. 'Al-Hiran Gas Field' Was Recently Discovered By Which Country

- A. Qatar
- B. Bahrain
- C. Saudi Arabia
- D. Israel

ANSWER: C

10. FoSCos Is The Portal Of Which Institution

- A. FAO
- B. FSSAI
- C. FICCI
- D. FCI

ANSWER: B

11. Which Organisation Released The 'Impact Of Disaster On Agriculture And Food Security'

- A. NABARD
- B. NITI Aayog
- C. FAO
- D. UNEP

ANSWER: C

12. India's First Sloth Bear Rescue Centre Is Located In Which State

- A. Assam
- B. West Bengal
- C. Karnataka
- D. Tamil Nadu

ANSWER: C

13. Which Union Ministry Is Associated With 'National Gopal Ratna Awards'

- A. Ministry of Agriculture
- B. Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying
- C. Ministry of MSME
- D. Ministry of Commerce and Industry

ANSWER: B

14. Noa Dihing Music Frog Is A Newly Discovered Species Found In

- A. Assam
- B. Arunachal Pradesh
- C. Manipur
- D. Meghalaya

ANSWER: B

15. Investor Risk Reduction Access Platform Ahs Been Developed By

- A. SEBI
- B. RBI
- C. Stock Exchanges
- D. NSDL

ANSWER: A

16. Which Country Has Developed A Robotic AI Chemist That Can Make Oxygen On Mars

- A. USA
- B. Israel
- C. China
- D. India

ANSWER: C

17. 'St Petersburg Declaration' Is Associated With Which Species

- A. Great Indian Bustard
- B. Tiger
- C. Lion
- D. Honey Bee

ANSWER: B

18. Who Won The Las Vegas Grand Prix 2023

- A. Charles Leclerc
- B. Sergio Perez
- C. Lewis Hamilton
- D. Max Verstappen

ANSWER: D

19. Which Country Designated Lashkar-e- Taiba As Terrorist Organization

- A. India
- B. United States
- C. United Kingdom
- D. Israel

ANSWER: D

20. Who Elected As Vice-chair Of UN Panel Of External Auditors

- A. Girish Chandra Murmu
- B. Rajesh Sharma
- C. Neha Kapoor
- D. Arjun Patel

ANSWER: A